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A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

Head Office: 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Branch Offices	Melbourne, Vic.	~ Fink's Buildings, Elizabeth Street.
	Sydney, N.S.W.	~ 114A Pitt Street.
	Adelaide, S.A.	~ 76 Brookman's Building, Grenfell Street.
	New York, U.S.A.	.. Park Row Building.

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Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* next published. Single copy, 4d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s.; *DIARY*, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

Prix de l'abonnement: *The Chemist and Druggist* une fois par semaine, et l'agenda du *Chemist and Druggist* une fois par an, 12.50 francs par an, franco.

Abonnementspreis: *The Chemist and Druggist* einmal wöchentlich, und Notizkalender des *Chemist and Druggist* einmal im Jahre, 10 Mark jährlich, frei in's Haus geliefert.

Precio de suscripcion: *The Chemist and Druggist* una vez por semana, y el *Agenda del Chemist and Druggist* una vez al año, 12.50 pesetas anuales, franco.

THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of FIFTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

Terms for advertising may be obtained on application to the Publisher, C. & D., 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

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The Colonial Issue of "The Chemist and Druggist" Falls this year on Saturday, April 19.

It will go to the best buyers of druggists' goods In the Britains beyond the sea.

Besides, it will be specially circulated in Japan: Japanese trade is worth looking after.

The Anglo-Japanese alliance will influence trade.

The C. & D. is in touch with buyers in Japan.

We have correspondents there who look after our interests.

Business men should make the most of the alliance.

So far as chemicals, drugs and sundries are concerned

The C. & D. of April 19 will be the medium for business.

Summary.

DUNDEE CHEMISTS want to close earlier (p. 483).

JUAR-ROOT has been substituted for ganja in India (p. 489).

A COLUMN and more of paragraphs about drug contracts begins on p. 486.

TRANSVAAL PHARMACY is waking up, but assistants seem too scarce (p. 490).

GLASGOW CHEMISTS approve of Mr. Tocher's educational scheme (p. 504).

SEVERAL articles have been added to the Ceylon Poisons schedule (p. 489).

MR. W. LYON's views on research work in pharmacy are epitomised on p. 506.

NOMINATIONS and elections of chemists to various public bodies are mentioned on p. 487.

A CANADIAN section of the Society of Chemical Industry has been established (p. 500).

THE present position and prospects of the cod-liver oil market are referred to in a note on p. 500.

A MAN is not liable for his wife's debts if he prove that he allows her enough pin-money (p. 493).

LAST month's mixture of salts contained lead nitrate, cadmium bromide, and potassium chloride (p. 484).

THAT monkey-lymph is still causing trouble. Our parliamentary representative sends a note about it (p. 506).

MR. A. C. ABRAHAM makes some useful remarks on the British Pharmacopoeia and criticisms thereof (p. 503).

MR. LEO ATRINSON will have to look after his Stamp Act laurels. "Xrayser" is tramping on them (p. 497).

"XRAYSER" comments stringently on Sir Herbert Maxwell's explanation about the Poisons Bill petition (p. 497).

DR. OTTO N. WITT lectured to the Royal Institution last week on recent developments in colouring-matters (p. 502).

WE PRINT a number of doubtful labels which the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have marked "Not liable" (p. 499).

THE activity of cannabis indica and digitalis is commented upon by Dr. J. C. McWalter and Mr. T. Maben (p. 508).

THE refractive index of cod-liver oil has proved a useful analytical factor in the hands of Mr. E. Dowdard (p. 504).

A PORTRAIT of Dr. A. Henry, who is to lecture before the Pharmaceutical Society next month, is printed on p. 495.

THE "Square" School football team have won the Challenge Cup this season, and have emptied it once at least (p. 487).

FESTIVITY is rather prevalent in pharmaceutical circles at present. We report half a dozen dinners and the like (p. 505).

TWO INJUNCTIONS have been granted by the High Court restraining persons from infringing the saccharin patents (p. 492).

M. THIBAUT has made a study of the effect of alcohol on perspiration. We give the gist of his remarks in an article on p. 493.

THE equipment of Boer hospitals appears to have been exceptionally fine. See note from a dispenser in one of them on p. 490.

MR. THOMPSON, SEN., the founder of the Crown Perfumery Company, has been caught in a characteristic position by Mr. Reynolds (p. 496).

A DISPUTE (Barker v. Brown) in connection with the purchase of a chemist's business at Earlestown has been decided in favour of defendant (p. 493).

THE COURT OF APPEAL has decided by a majority that the word "Vaseline" is a good trade-mark, and the property of the Chesebrough Manufacturing Company (p. 492).

JUNE 26 AND 27 are to be public holidays (p. 491). Some members of Parliament wish to create an Empire day—the Saturday before the first Monday in August (p. 511).

THE monthly-accounts question raised by "An Ordinary Retailer" gets support from "Xrayser" (p. 497), and Mr. C. Unney also writes on the subject (p. 508).

THE CHEMISTS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION have beaten the Inland Revenue in a medicine-stamp case, arising from the sale of influenza pastilles unstamped (p. 491 and p. 499).

THE FEATURES in the markets this week are a considerable advance in glycerin and cod-liver oil. Gamboge is dearer also. Ammonia sulphate has advanced, and copper sulphate is lower. Quinine very quiet (p. 512).

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH D.

REPORTS.

THE powder distributed to students on February 19 consisted of equal parts by weight of lead nitrate, cadmium bromide, and potassium chloride.

The calculated composition of such a mixture is—

Pb	20.8
Cd	13.8
K	17.5
NO ₃	12.5
Br	19.6
Cl	15.8
	100.0

The powder also contained a small quantity of calcium as impurity, but was substantially free from other impurities.

Samples of the powder were distributed to ninety-three students, and fifty-three reports were sent in for examination.

The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the powder were:—(a) Metallic radicals: Lead, 1; cadmium, 18; potassium, 1. (b) Acid radicals: Nitric, 7; hydrobromic, 18; hydrochloric, 4.

While not exactly a beginners' mixture, it is so far evident, from the relatively high scoring, that the present exercise did not present any features of special analytical difficulty, and yet some of the individual failures have been of rather a remarkable kind. The large proportion of failures to detect cadmium and bromine cannot be ascribed to the small quantity of the elements present, and some other cause must be sought for. As regards cadmium, more than one cause of failure is forthcoming. Some students omitted to apply any test for it, ignoring its possible presence altogether; while others clearly failed to detect it through adding hydrogen sulphide to solutions containing too much free acid when testing for it in the course of their systematic analysis. We are unable, however, to explain the failure in the cases of quite a number who tested for it in ammoniacal solutions (in which it ought to have been present) by means of ammonium hydrosulphide. The failures to detect bromine were very largely due to entirely omitting to test for it. In the minds of a fair proportion of our correspondents the formation of a white (or nearly white) precipitate on the addition of silver nitrate to a solution which contains free nitric acid appears to be associated only with the presence of a chloride, if the precipitate is found to dissolve in excess of ammonia; and the several other possibilities suggested by such indications are consequently passed by unheeded.

The fact that the failures to detect chloride in presence of bromide are not nearly so numerous this month as they were on the last occasion when we submitted the same analytical complexity to our correspondents is no doubt due to the chloride being present in considerably larger proportion in the present mixture. At any rate, this result is certainly not owing to the general adoption of a trustworthy method, as the majority adhere to the treatment of the mixed silver chloride and bromide with 1-in-20 ammonia solution as a mode of separation. It is probably only on account of the unfortunate fact that this most unsatisfactory method can be made to yield tolerably reliable results in cases like the present, where chloride in relatively large quantity is associated with bromide, that it is not entirely discarded by all who aim at analytical accuracy. Students who try to use

the method when much bromide is present along with only a small quantity of chloride (or none at all), are quite certain to be landed in doubt, and very probably in disaster. Not more than one-third of our correspondents applied any test for chloride which was quite sure to succeed even if only a small quantity of the latter were present.

As on many previous occasions, the reported impurities are numerous, and the impurities actually present in the powder exceedingly few. Iron and magnesium, for example, were commonly reported as impurities. Operating upon 15 gr. of the powder, it was only with some difficulty that we were able to show that recognisable traces of iron really were present, while no indication of the presence of magnesium could be obtained at all. Those correspondents who have reported traces of these metals in the powder should look to the minute details of the purity of their reagents, and to the refinements of careful manipulation. Traces of lead and cadmium present in the hydrogen-sulphide filtrate (owing to the presence of too much free acid, in which lead and cadmium sulphides are both distinctly soluble) appear to have been mistaken for some of the impurities reported. The last traces of lead were not easily separated by means of hydrogen sulphide, and the slight darkening observed on adding ammonium hydrosulphide, and attributed to iron, was mainly due to the presence of lead.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to

H. LONGSTAFF, 223 Saltwell Road, Bensham, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

FLORA McDONALD, 90 Roker Avenue, Sunderland.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Special Memoranda, suggested by this month's reports:—

1. Do not describe any experiment which has not actually been tried. The reverse is very plainly noticeable in several cases this month.

2. For all delicate analytical work, filter-papers which

have been extracted with hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acids should alone be employed, despite the somewhat greater cost. Common filter-papers often contain impurities, such as iron and calcium, in considerable quantities, and these may be dissolved by acid liquids during filtration.

3. Refer to the method for detecting chloride, even in small quantity, in presence of bromide (or of bromide and iodide) given in the *C. & D.* for June, 1901 (vol. lviii., page 1010).

4. Do not assume that the acetic radical is necessarily present because lead has been detected with certainty. There are other lead salts besides lead acetate.

W. H. HURN.—Before testing for cadmium in the solution obtained by dissolving the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate in nitric acid, the small quantity of lead still present in solution should have been removed by precipitation as sulphate. Cadmium, unless present in large quantity, is very liable to be overlooked altogether when this step is omitted.

EXCELSIOR.—Your account of the examination for halogen acid radicals does not make it clear that you did not add black manganese oxide and sulphuric acid to a solution of the powder which had previously been treated with chlorine-water, although it seems scarcely likely that you would fail to recognise that such a proceeding would be inadmissible.

FILIX MAS.—You do not exclude the possible presence of borate in the powder. Kindly send your name with your next report.

W. H. A.-IN-M.—We repeat our reply to yourself and others regarding the exercise of last December: "The hydrogen-sulphide precipitate must have contained some lead sulphide, although you failed to obtain any lead sulphate when examining it. The precipitation of lead as chloride by the addition of hydrochloric acid is not complete."

XYLEM.—It is unfortunate that your discovery of the presence of calcium in your filter-papers rendered the presence of traces of that metal in the powder doubtful. You will find it worth your while to use nothing but high-class filter-papers, which have been extracted with hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acids, in examining "Corner" exercises, and possibly also for the whole of your analytical work.

JEGOW, WEARY WILL, and IPSE.—We made several experiments with a view to obtain evidence of the presence of traces of ammonium salts, but without success. Care must be taken to avoid action on the test-papers used by ammonia present in the air—an admixture very common in most laboratories.

J. I. A. and WEARY WILL.—We believe, although we are not prepared to assert, that it is not possible to recognise the smell of chlorine in presence of much bromine.

KRYPTON.—Boiling the powder with concentrated sulphuric acid would drive off nitric and hydrochloric acids as well as bromine and hydrobromic acid, so that tests for the nitric and hydrochloric radicals after such treatment might easily fail, even when nitrate and chloride had been present originally.

BRASSICA.—On adding silver nitrate to a solution containing chloride and bromide, silver bromide will be precipitated first—not silver chloride. The formation of the latter salt begins when the bromide present has been completely precipitated.

MALTONIAN.—When vapour of chromyl chloride is led into ammonia solution, ammonium chloride and chromate are formed. A green precipitate of chromic hydroxide is never produced, however.

RICHARDUS.—See reply to "W. H. A.-in-M." The picric-acid test for potassium falls far behind Carot's test in point of delicacy.

WESTMINSTER.—Thanks for pointing out error in tournament totals. You would observe the correction last week.

A. T. HOPE.—You omitted to apply any distinctive test for bromide. Why did you not treat a solution of the original powder with chlorine water and chloroform, or carbon bisulphide? The faintly yellowish tinge of silver bromide is very liable to be overlooked, especially by gas-light.

NEMO (Coventry).—The silver-coin reaction for sulphide, which you obtained from the residue after heating on charcoal, was almost certainly due to sulphur compounds present in the charcoal. All wood contains some sulphates and other compounds containing sulphur, and these are not entirely eliminated during the preparation of charcoal.

H. JOHNSON.—You say that the sodium-carbonate solution for acid radicals when exactly neutralised with acetic acid gave no precipitate with silver nitrate, and yet you report the presence of chloride. There is a discrepancy in this which needs explanation.

J. E. JEFFREY.—Please send your address with your next report.

H. WILLSON.—It was intended that about 15 gr. of the powder should reach each correspondent. The necessity of economising the powder during the analysis and the discipline of making accurate observations with small quantities are essential and valuable features of the exercise.

ALOES.—The fact that you observed a yellow precipitate at first on passing hydrogen sulphide should have led you to make special search for an explanation. As a matter of fact you left the observation unexplained, and missed cadmium.

J. J. B. M.—How do you reconcile the statements that silver nitrate, when added to a portion of the sodium-carbonate extract for acid radicals (which had been neutralised with nitric acid), gave a white curdy precipitate (which you attribute to the presence of chloride), and that silver nitrate when added to another portion of the same solution gives no precipitate (which you regard as indicating the absence of bromide)? We find it impossible to unravel problems of this description.

CYMENE.—If, as you report, you dissolved some of the original powder in dilute nitric acid, added silver nitrate, and then ammonia in excess, you would not obtain a clear solution, because while the ammonia would dissolve the silver chloride and bromide, it would produce a new white precipitate of lead hydroxide, which is insoluble in excess of ammonia.

AMYLUM.—Note (1) that the grey deposit you obtained upon copper in applying Reinsch's test to the solution produced by dissolving the hydrogen sulphide precipitate in hydrochloric acid was most likely due to your omitting to completely remove the hydrogen sulphide from the solution; (2) that cadmium sulphide is not soluble in ammonium hydrosulphide; (3) that chloroplatinic acid as a test for potassium is not applicable to solutions containing lead and metallic radicals generally; and (4) that solution of sodium zincate does not give any precipitate when mixed with potassium ferrocyanide. See the reply immediately following.

KUON and CURIP.—We would strongly recommend you to prepare mixtures having the composition of the present exercise, and to practise upon them until you thoroughly understand their behaviour in the course of systematic analysis.

ANGUS SCOTT.—The fact that the hydrogen sulphide precipitate was black did not preclude the possible presence in it of cadmium sulphide. The yellowish precipitate you obtained on boiling the filtrate from hydrogen sulphide (after removal of the latter) with ammonium molybdate consisted of molybdic anhydride: the mixture should not be boiled. The pungent-smelling gas evolved on heating the powder with hydrochloric acid was simply hydrochloric acid gas. See the reply immediately preceding.

THE ANALYTICAL TOURNAMENT.

This month's exercise has led to some changes in position on the list. The six leaders, amongst whom it seems reasonable to suppose that the winners will be found, are now:—

Jegow	431	Edinburghnm	444
Tungsten	471	W. H. A.-in-M.	437
Algot	451	Westminster	408

By the time this list appears our correspondents will be engaged upon the final exercise of the Tournament, and we look for a spirited finish.

New Books.

Browne, F. Gore, and Jordan, W. *Handy Book on the Formation, Management, and Winding-up of Joint-stock Companies.* 24th ed. 5s. net. (Jordan.)

Cooper (F. W.), Gawn (D. W.), &c. *Photographic Apparatus, Making and Adapting.* Ed. by George E. Brown. 180 Diagrams and Working Sketches. 1s. net. (Dawbarn.)

Georgievics, G. von. *Chemical Technology of Textile Fibres.* Trans. from German. 47 illus. Pp. 300. 10s. 6d. (Scott & G.)

Recipes for the Colour, Paint, Varnish, Oil, Soap, and Dry-saltary Trades. Compiled by an Analytical Chemist. Pp. 350. 7s. 6d. (Scott & G.)

Shenstone, W. A. *Methods of Glass-blowing and of Working Silica in the Oxy-Gas Flame.* 4th ed. 6½×4½. Pp. 106. 2s. 6d. (Longmans.)

Wood, W. *Tables of Organic Materia Medica for Medical Students.* 10×7½. Pp. 216. 5s. net. (Medical Supply Assoc.)

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The chemists of Bridgend have decided to close at 8 o'clock each night, except Saturday night, from April 1.

At Lambeth Police Court on March 24, a chemist's assistant, who gave the name of Lionel Raymond, was fined 5s. for being drunk and disorderly.

A meeting of the Newcastle Young Chemists' Association was held on March 19, when the members spent most of the time examining materia medica specimens lent by Mr. John Clark.

The annual congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health will be held at Exeter, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Iddesleigh, from August 21 to August 26.

The Grimsby and District Chemists' and Druggists' Association have arranged to hold their annual meeting on Thursday, April 10, followed by the annual dinner, at 7 P.M., at the Oberon Hotel.

At the Camberwell Coroner's Court on March 24, an inquest was held touching the death of a chemist's assistant named Sydney Champion, who was found dead in bed. The jury found that death was due to heart-disease.

At the examinations held at the Manchester College of Pharmacy this month, Mr. Richard McMyn secured the first place for theoretical work, and was awarded a copy of "Pharmacopædia." Mr. H. H. Graves won the medal given for the best analytical work.

The materia medica museum of the London College of Chemistry and Pharmacy has just been enriched by a collection of about fifty Indian drugs presented by Mr. G. S. Drayton, a former student of the College, now of Bombay. The specimens are in bottles, named and described.

At Stratford Police-court on March 22, Evan C. Hughes, a doctor's dispenser, Leytonstone, was ordered to pay 3s. a week and 1l. 1s. costs, under an affiliation order made at the request of a domestic servant, who had been cook to the medical man with whom defendant was employed as dispenser.

An order was made at the Westminster County Court on March 21 against a skin-specialist named Fleming, lately in business in Oxford Street, W., for payment of a judgment-debt (for chemicals supplied by a trader named Francis) in a month, subject, in default, to committal to Holloway for twelve days.

Two errand-boys in the employ of Mr. F. Blackmore, pharmaceutical chemist, Westou-super-Mare, pleaded guilty at the police-court, on March 18, to stealing and receiving 4l. 18s. 6d. belonging to their employer. The thief was ordered to be birched, while the receiver (who is over age) was fined 1l.

At the Clerkenwell Sessions on March 20, William John Willis was acquitted of a charge against him of having stolen a packet of tobacco and cigarettes, value 3s., during his employment as manager to the foreign-perfumery department at the premises of Messrs. Hovenden & Sons (Limited), 89-91 City Road, E.C.

At a meeting of the Yorkshire Section of the Society of Chemical Industry at the Queen's Hall, Leeds, on Monday evening, Mr. Fairley stated that the Society desire to visit Yorks in 1903, and it was decided to consult the Bradford members, the Chairman stating that the matter would be formally brought before the committee.

In the Westminster County Court on March 21 the case of Raynor v. Giles came up, being an application to commit the defendant to prison for non-payment of a judgment-debt in respect of bottles supplied to the defendant at a time when he was a chemist in Harrow Road. The defendant said he had no means, and the Judge refused to make any order.

Contracts.

Mr. T. E. Barrass, pharmaceutical chemist, Chard, has secured the half-yearly contract for drugs to Chard Workhouse.

Mr. W. Lean, chemist and druggist, Eversham, has been appointed chemist to Evesham Workhouse for the next six months.

Mr. A. Dyson, chemist and druggist, Grays, has been appointed to supply drugs to Orsett Workhouse for the next half-year.

Ulverston Rural District Council have accepted the tender of Mr. R. Willan, pharmaceutical chemist, for the supply of disinfectants.

Mr. J. Griffith Isaac, chemist, Neath, has obtained the contract for the supply of disinfectants to the Neath Rural District Council.

Mr. H. S. Martin chemist and druggist, has been appointed to supply drugs to East Grinstead Workhouse for the ensuing half-year.

Lewisham Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate Street, London, for surgical appliances.

Mr. T. P. Jary, chemist, Lowestoft, has received the contract for the supply of drugs to the Mutford and Lothingland Board of Guardians.

Kington Board of Guardians have appointed Mr. T. H. V. Morris, chemist and druggist, Hereford, to supply cod-liver oil to the workhouse for the next half-year.

Nantwich Board of Guardians have appointed Mr. Benjamin Woolstencroft, chemist and druggist, to supply drugs to the workhouse for the ensuing half-year.

Ellesmere Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. J. J. Clayton, chemist and druggist, for the half-yearly supply of disinfectants to the workhouse.

The Medway (Kent) Board of Guardians have appointed Messrs. Goldthorpe & Cook, chemists, Chatham, to supply drugs to the workhouse for the next half-year.

At a meeting of Boston Board of Guardians the tender of Gilliatt (Limited) was accepted for Howards' quinine at 1s. 8½d. per oz., and soft soap at 8s. per 60-lb. keg.

High Wycombe Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Young & Coley, chemists, High Wycombe, for the supply of cod-liver oil and quinine to the workhouse for the next half-year.

Strood Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of the Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited) for the supply of carbolic soap at 16s. 6d. per cwt., and that of the Sanitas Company (Limited) for disinfecting-fluid at 9s. per doz. pints.

Mr. W. H. Hill, chemist and druggist, High Street, Cheltenham, will supply to the local workhouse Sanitas, crude, at 4s. 3d. per gal., and Savory & Moore's food at 8s. 6d. per dozen for 1s. size tins; Mr. C. H. James, chemist and druggist, Promenade, will supply drugs for twelve months, at 20 per cent. off Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.'s price-list; and Mr. W. Hands, pharmaceutical chemist, High Street, will supply the sundries required during the same period.

The Marylebone Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Tnos. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, of 81 Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C., to supply the infirmary and the North and South Dispensaries with drugs as per detailed tender in the sum of 292l. 2s. 3d.; they also accept the tender of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, 7-12 Aldersgate Street, E.C., to supply the infirmary and North and South Dispensaries with druggists' sundries as per detailed tender in the sum of 240l. 14s. 9d.

The Yarmouth Board of Guardians have appointed Mr. J. Shearman, of 156 King Street, in that town, chemist to the workhouse for the ensuing half-year. Mr. Shearman's tender was at 12½ per cent. off list-prices for drugs. His tender, which was also accepted for other articles, quoted cod-liver oil at 4s. 6d. per gal., and at 8d. per pint for the outdoor poor, quinine at 1s. 9d. per oz., crushed linseed meal at 17s. 6d. per cwt., olive oil at 5s. per gal., sweet oil at 3s. per gal., single trusses at 1s. 6d., and double trusses at 2s. each.

The Basingstoke Board of Guardians have accepted the following tender of Mr. J. E. Turner, chemist and druggist: iodoform, 8*d.* per oz.; absorbent wool, 8*d.* per lb.; flax lint, 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.; tow, 1*d.*; Condyl's fluid, 1*s.* per pint; methylated spirit, 3*d.*; pure glycerin, 4*d.* per lb.; eucalyptus oil (globulus), 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb.; castor oil, 2*d.*; double trusses, 1*s.* 4*d.*, single, 10*d.*; cod-liver oil, 4*s.* 3*d.* per dozen pints; carbolic acid, 11*d.* per gal.; McDougall's purifier, 2*s.* 10*d.* and 3*s.* 10*d.* per gal.; McDougall's solution powder, 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; Sanitas, 9*s.* 6*d.* per dozen pints.

At a meeting of the Portsmouth Guardians on March 19, a discussion took place on the question of the contracts for drugs, which cost the Board 600*l.* a year, and which had been relegated to an expert committee. Tenders from six firms were received, and it was stated that the list-prices were practically the same, and the question resolved itself into one of the amount of discount allowed. Messrs. Walker, Troke & Co., who have supplied the Board with drugs for many years, offered a discount of 21½ per cent., and their contract was accepted. Messrs. Thos. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King offered 28 per cent., but the Board decided, by the casting vote of the Chairman, to give the contract to the firm who have previously given the Board satisfaction in supplying the drugs.

Drug-traveller's Fatal Accident.

Mr. Thos. William Walker, a traveller in the employ of Mr. W. C. Hebden, wholesale chemist, Winding Road, Halifax, was the victim of a fatal tram accident on March 22. Mr. Walker stood talking to a friend, Mr. J. W. Kershaw, in King Cross Lane, near the West Parade Junction, when a tramcar approached, and the two young men, turning mechanically round, as they thought, to let the car pass, stepped right in front of the car, which was close on them. Kershaw was hurled across the road, while Walker fell in front, and one of the wheels passed over him. He was conveyed to the infirmary in an unconscious state, and died a couple of hours after admission. The deceased, who was 28 years of age, was well known in the northern counties.

Elections and Nominations.

The following gentlemen have been elected to public bodies:—

Bolton Board of Guardians.—Mr. J. W. Watkinson, chemist and druggist, Kearsley, Farnworth.

Bowness Urban District Council.—Mr. T. M. Holmes, chemist and druggist, Bowness.

Depwade Board of Guardians.—Mr. A. H. E. Jeffery, chemist and druggist, Diss.

Keswick Urban District Council.—Mr. Thomas W. Townley, pharmaceutical chemist, Keswick.

Ledbury Urban District Council.—Mr. V. W. Meacham, chemist and druggist, Ledbury.

Towcester Rural District Council.—Mr. Thomas Oldham, chemist and druggist, Towcester.

The following nominations have been made:—

Auckland District Council.—Mr. H. W. Thorburn, chemist and druggist, Bishop Auckland.

Bognor Urban District Council.—Mr. Jas. Hughes, chemist and druggist, Bognor.

Broadstairs Urban District Council.—Mr. J. Horrell, pharmaceutical chemist, Broadstairs.

Doncaster Rural District Council.—Mr. W. W. Hopkinson, manufacturing chemist, Doncaster.

Garston Urban District Council.—Mr. W. Hall Jowett, chemist and druggist, Grassendale.

Horsham District Council.—Mr. E. Smith, chemist and druggist, Horsham.

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Leyland Urban District Council.—Mr. F. Hackforth, chemist and druggist, Leyland.

Medway Board of Guardians.—Mr. T. C. Lamb, chemist and druggist, Chatham; and Mrs. T. C. Lamb.

Portsmouth Board of Guardians.—Mr. T. Brewis, chemist and druggist, Portsmouth.

Ramsbottom District Council.—Mr. J. C. Hazlehurst, chemical-manufacturer, Ramsbottom.

Ripley Urban District Council.—Mr. W. S. Wain, chemist and druggist, Ripley.

Ross (Hereford) Urban District Council.—Mr. T. Matthews, chemist and druggist, Ross.

Stonehouse District Council.—Mr. F. Maitland, chemist and druggist, Stonehouse, Devon.

Uttoxeter Urban District Council.—Mr. A. Parker, chemist and druggist; and Mr. G. R. Hankinson, chemist and druggist, both of Uttoxeter.

Walmer Urban District Council.—Mr. Henry Wood, chemist and druggist, Walmer.

West Derby (Liverpool) Board of Guardians.—Mr. J. H. Allan, pharmaceutical chemist, Aintree; Mr. W. S. Yates, chemists' shopfitter, Everton.

Wilmslow District Council.—Mr. John Sumner, chemist and druggist, Manchester.

Football.

London College of Pharmacy v. South London School of Pharmacy.—On March 15, a match under the Rugby Union rules was played between these two schools. The game which, owing to the slippery state of the ground, was carried on under difficulties, ended in a draw.

The "Square" Football Club completed their season's fixtures on Saturday last, March 22, with the annual Old Boys' match. Mr. W. B. Nelson captained the Old Boys, and he was able to include in his team Mr. R. Warren and Mr. W. Owen—both old "Square" captains. A rather one-sided game terminated in a victory for the present team by 7 to nil. The match was followed up by a smoking-concert at the Bush Hotel in the evening. This was a decided success, and an excellent programme had been arranged by Mr. H. G. Mitchell, the captain of this year's eleven. The cup, which the team have won this year, was filled with champagne and handed round to all present. Towards the end of the evening toasts were proposed to "The Old Boys," "The Present Team," "The Captain," "The Vice-Captain," "The Secretary," and (by special request of the Minors) to "The Major Students" who are just terminating their session at the Square.

P.O. Points.

Writing from Brighton to a London morning paper, Mr. G. C. Dusart, managing director of the Sussex Drug Company (Limited), states that his company have lately received from the Secretary of the G.P.O. instructions governing the addition of the words "to follow," on invoices. It appears that one may not *write* the words "to follow" nor *write* the initials "t.f."; nor put a *manuscript* cross (X), referring to a printed note at foot of invoice—all these "render the invoices on which they are inscribed liable to letter-postage"; but "there would, however, be no objection if the words or initials were either printed or inserted by means of a hand-stamp."

A "Sparklet" Costume.

A Reuter message states that Sir Edmund and Lady Lechmere have been making a trip to Fashoda; Lady Lechmere being the second Englishwoman to visit there. Talking of the natives south of Fashoda, who wear no clothes, Sir Edward says old "sparklets" are in great demand for necklaces, and even a more valuable asset for barter than beads.

Birmingham Notes.

Syrup of tolu, "syrpnps," syrup of squills, and camphor-liniment are the things the S. F. & D. Acts inspector is purchasing just now.

Mr. John Bellamy, chemist, Harborne, late of the firm Bellamy & Wakefield, Easy Row, has been appointed an overseer for the part of Harborne in Birmingham parish.

The death is announced, at the ripe old age of 83, of Mr. J. L. Ryland, Solihull Hall, who for many years had a large and successful drysaltery, varnish, lacquer, and paint works in our city.

Messrs. Boots Cash Chemists have one window devoted to sundries, including barbers' requisites, and jewellery, including rings from 7*s.* upwards. This department is attended to by lady helpers.

During last week's procession of the Theatrical Sports participants a very neat go-cart with the red-cross legend of a local surgical-dressings firm was very conspicuous. Did it contain splints, bandages, &c., for use at the grounds?

The inspector of weights and measures is on the war-path. A batch of convictions has been reported, and it may be desirable to offer a word of warning to our brethren in pharmacy that they may see that their weights and measures are in good order.

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Medicine contracts.

The following medicine-contracts have been declared:—Croom Union and Dispensaries—Cork Chemical and Drug Store, and the Medical Supply Company, Sligo (the latter for appliances). Castlebar Union—Mr. J. J. Cahill, Castlebar. Ballymahon Union—The Medical Supply Company, for appliances, at 10½ per cent. off the standard price; and Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin, for medicines, at 12½ per cent. off.—At the last meeting of the Strokestown Guardians a letter was read from Messrs. McMaster, Hodgson & Co., Dublin, withdrawing their tender for medicines. The other tenders for medicines were then gone into. Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin, tendered at 1½ per cent. under list-price; Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, at 5 per cent. under; and Mr. White, Sligo, at 5 per cent. under. Mr. White got the contract, he had been the old contractor, and had given great satisfaction. The medical-appliance tenders were next considered. Messrs. Smith & Shepherd tendered at 7½ per cent. under list-price; the Medical Supply Company, Sligo, at 15½ under; Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, at 16 per cent. under; Messrs. John Clarke & Co., Belfast, at 7½ per cent. under; and Mr. White, Sligo, at 15½ per cent. under. Mr. White amended his tender to 16 per cent. under the list-price, and the Board then declared him the contractor.

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Chemist and Photographer.

On March 17 Mr. John Cummings, chemist and druggist, Alloa, delivered a lecture to a large audience in the Museum Hall, Alloa, on the exposure, development, and printing of photographs. Mr. Cummings showed a large number of lantern-slides, and, besides, gave a practical demonstration of various processes after his lecture.

A Veterinarian's Testimonial.

At a meeting of subscribers to the Principal Williams Memorial Fund, held at Edinburgh on March 19, it was stated that the free surplus of the fund was 420*l.*, and the Executive Committee recommended that a portion of the fund should be devoted to the painting of a portrait of the late Principal, to be hung in the Council-room of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and that the balance, together with any additions to the fund, should be invested, and the revenue applied for bursary, scholarship, or research fund, or other prize for the encouragement of the study of veterinary science. The recommendations were agreed to.

Glasgow Notes.

Of the exceptionally heavy list of entries for the April Minor in Edinburgh, a large number are from the Glasgow schools.

There is a strong and growing feeling amongst senior unqualified chemists here who have been in the business for many years, and many of whom are being displaced by recent changes, that an effort should be made to institute an assistants' qualification, and admit to an assistants' register assistants who have been in the trade for a stated term of years previous to the passing of the enabling Act.

A newspaper-man, in working up "copy" on the practice of laudanum-drinking, relates the case of a Glasgow glazier who used to buy his laudanum two pints at a time, and drink it in wineglassfuls. It is said that he tried to cure himself of the habit by putting one piece of putty after another into his glass until its capacity was almost *nil*, but a severe attack of his old enemy, rheumatism, drove him back to the wineglassful, which he took regularly thenceforward until his death.

The West of Scotland tradition in favour of free public discussion was manifested characteristically by the unanimous decision at Mr. Tocher's meeting that the conference should be an open one. The practically unqualified approval of Mr. Tocher's scheme must have been a surprise even to that sanguine apostle of the new Academe. Most of the speakers took it for granted that the scheme is impregnable and impeccable, and Mr. Mabon's dismal prediction that for years to come the university lecturer on pharmacaceutics might not have a class of more than two or three, was stigmatised as a perniciously pessimistic utterance. Mr. Currie's vigorous animadversions upon a certain member of Council, who thinks the Scotchmen should have got permission from Bloomsbury Square before they set up their incubator, were enthusiastically acclaimed.

Early Closing in Dundee.

There have been some rather severe comments in the *Evening Telegraph* in regard to the backwardness of Dundee chemists and druggists as regards early closing, and, as a result, the matter was discussed at the meeting of the Forfarshire Chemists' Association last week, the Secretary reading a letter from the National Union of Shop-assistants asking chemists to close at 10 o'clock on Saturdays. Bailie Doig hoped they would have a weekly half-holiday also, and close at 8 o'clock on five days of the week. Mr. Charles Kerr said he would do the latter during the summer months, whether other chemists did it or not; and a committee, consisting of Messrs. John Gray, Jno. Wm. Russell, and William Cummings, was appointed to take further steps. The *Telegraph* went again into the matter, stating that the keeping open of chemists' shops at all hours can only be due to selfish reasons, adding:—

The chemists and druggists, or at least some of them, are inclined to assume hoity-toity airs in claiming a monopoly of the trade in drugs, chemicals, &c. They even complain if doctors dare to dispense medicine. Nevertheless there is a disposition to exploit the monopoly by running establishments in which young assistants are entrusted with full charge, and in such cases the tendency is to keep the shops open night and day.

It has since transpired that there are very few chemists in Dundee who object to reasonable hours of closing, and, although the Wednesday half-holiday is by no means universal amongst Dundee shopkeepers, it is the fact that the more enlightened chemists of the town have always given their assistants and apprentices ample facilities for recreation and study. Now that the matter has again come to the front, and in view of the approaching meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Dundee, something definite is likely to be done.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

EXHIBITION AT GRASSE.—An exhibition, organised by the local Agricultural Society, is to be opened at Grasse in April. The exhibits will comprise olive oil of all grades, essential oils, perfumery, &c. Inquirers should write to the Secretary of the Agricultural Society at Grasse.

SCIENCE IN THE FAR EAST.—Advices have been received at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, that Dr. Yersin, chief of the Bacteriological Laboratory at Nha-Trang, is now in Tonkin with a view to establishing a native School of Science and Medicine at Ton-Ap.

SUICIDE OF A PHARMACIST.—In a small hotel in the rue de Cléry, Paris, a man committed suicide last Saturday by shooting himself through the heart with a revolver. On a table was found a letter explaining that the deceased's name was Fabrice d'Ura, formerly established as a pharmacist at Rio Janiero. He had been living in Paris for some time in good style, and had become compromised in an abortion affair.

"PAINLESS" DENTISTRY FOR 2½*l.*—It may always be noticed that in Paris, as in most other big cities, when a street is under repair, a knot of pedlars usually find a propitious spot for starting business. Joseph Lelong is a resourceful man of this class, though when following his legitimate trade he is a blacksmith. A few days ago he installed himself on a chair in the avenue de Cléry, where the road is under repair, and offered to extract teeth "painlessly" for five sous (2½*l.*). In addition to the chair, he had a stock-in-trade a small table, on which he placed a bottle of peppermint-water and a glass, while in his right hand he brandished a dubious-looking pair of forceps. In a space of time that seemed remarkably short he relieved over twenty customers, and business seemed quite flourishing, but profuse hæmorrhage followed the extraction of a molar of the twenty-fourth client, and he was taken to a neighbouring pharmacist for treatment, though not before there had been trouble between the amateur dentist and his victim. The police interfered when all the harm had been done, and Lelong was taken into custody.

East Indian News.

HUNYADI JÁNOS IN INDIA.—A circular letter from Mr. Andreas Saxlehner, Budapest, states that Mr. A. J. Pilo is no longer a representative or in any way associated with the sale of Hunyadi János water, and that Mr. C. H. Allen, of Calcutta, has been appointed sole representative in India.

THE BEECHAM FAMINE.—We are still without a box of the far-famed pills, writes a Bombay correspondent. It is five weeks now since the supply suddenly stopped, and the loss through absence of stock must amount to something considerable. That such a state of affairs should continue is the more inexplicable seeing that Beecham has a representative in Calcutta.

A NEW INTOXICATING DRUG.—In the last Excise report of the Central Provinces of India, the Commissioner mentions the alleged substitution of juar-root for ganja in the Hoshangabad district. It appears that juar-root is used to enhance the intoxicating powers of bhang by the lower classes. This enables them to get the desired amount of intoxication a little more cheaply. Juar-root appears, however, to be very rarely used by itself, the reason alleged for this being that it is too potent a narcotic to be used alone by any except the most hardened drug-smokers; but, like datura and other substances, it is used to strengthen ganja for the *blasé* smoker.

CEYLON POISONS ORDINANCE.—The following articles are declared in the Ceylon *Government Gazette* of March 5 to be poisons within the meaning of the Ordinance:—

All poisonous vegetable alkaloids and their salts	tioned in part I., clause 2, of the amended draft regulations
Atropine and its preparations	tions
Preparations of cantharides	Chloral hydrate and its preparations
Preparations of metallic cyanides	Corrosive sublimate preparations and all other mercury salts
Preparations of strychnine	Nux vomica and its preparations
All vermin-killers containing any of the above preparations and those preparations men-	tions

These are additions to the poisons-schedule mentioned in our issue of October 19, 1901, page 639. In THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of August 31 (page 380) we detail the general effect of the Ordinance to which this is an appendix.

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At the Assizes on Friday, Mr. Charles Herbert Thompson, expert chemist, Stourbridge, brought an action against the British Opal Wall-glazing Company, London, for 125*l.* balance of account for services rendered—viz., making experiments to produce a "backing" for tiles which had to be fixed to a wall. There was a counterclaim for 21*l.* for glass windows supplied, on which he was to work some of his designs. Judgment for plaintiff for 50*l.*, and on counterclaim.

The Week's Poisonings.

The peculiarity of our poison-list this week is that four of the ten deaths from poisoning are attributed to ammonia. A woman and a child at Ashton-under-Lyne each drank, through inadvertence a quantity of liquid ammonia, while the same poison was taken with suicidal intentions and with fatal results by one woman at Pitminster and another at Blackburn. The only other unscheduled poison employed was hydrochloric acid, taken by a Nuneaton man. The scheduled poisons used were cyanide of potassium (which Mr. Hine, a Brixton analyst, took), carbolic acid, strychnine, chloroform, and morphine. The chlorodyne was taken by Lillian Leach, of Manchester, who had been troubled with influenza and sleeplessness. She sent to Mr. J. S. Beese, pharmaceutical chemist, Rusholme, for two bottles of chlorodyne, and took the lot at once, which ended in her death at the Royal Infirmary the same day.—At an inquest held on March 21 at Cardiff, touching the death of John Jenkins, assistant master of one of the Board schools, the widow said her husband had been complaining for weeks past of sleeplessness, for which he was in the habit of taking laudanum and other drugs. On March 15 he wrote to Messrs. Ferris & Co., wholesale druggists, Bristol, from whom he received a parcel a few days after. That night her husband went to bed early, but in the morning he appeared to be convulsed. She sent for a doctor, but deceased died a few hours later. The letter to Messrs. Ferris & Co. was read in court as follows: "Please forward catalogue by return of post, also 1 oz. of morphia.—Yours obliged, John Jenkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P." The widow said she found a bottle containing a white powder under her husband's pillow just before the doctor was summoned. Dr. J. J. E. Biggs said deceased had been in the habit of taking various drugs, including sulphonal and phenacetin. Witness advised his removal to Bridgend Asylum with a view to restraining him from taking drugs. He seemed better after his return in October. Death was due to morphine-poisoning. Witness the same morning telephoned to the Bristol chemists asking what powder had been sent to deceased, and was informed that it was hydrochloride of morphine. In reply to the Coroner, witness said morphine was sold under the Poisons Act, and chemists had no right to sell it except to duly registered medical practitioners. The Medical Register is published every year, so that there would be no difficulty in finding out whether a person of the name of John Jenkins was duly registered or not; only there might be a good many of that name in Wales. The bottle produced contained 1 oz of morphine less 45 gr. The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane. The case has excited great interest in Cardiff, and several local chemists, interviewed by our local correspondent as to the extent to which morphine is used, expressed the opinion that there is little demand for it, and that it would not be supplied except to a doctor or a chemist.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Theft.

The premises of Messrs. Dobbin & Co. (Limited), chemists and druggists, Belfast, were last week broken into and the private offices rifled. The thieves were disturbed at their work, and were pursued by several constables, but escaped for a time. At daybreak three men were discovered on the roof, and the chase recommenced. One of the burglars jumped some 20 feet to the ground and escaped; the other two were caught, and have been sent for trial.

Medicine contracts.

The following medicine-contracts have been declared:—Croom Union and Dispensaries—Cork Chemical and Drug Store, and the Medical Supply Company, Sligo (the latter for appliances). Castlebar Union—Mr. J. J. Cahill, Castlebar. Ballymahon Union—The Medical Supply Company, for appliances, at 10½ per cent. off the standard price; and Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin, for medicines, at 12½ per cent. off.—At the last meeting of the Strokestown Guardians a letter was read from Messrs. McMaster, Hodgson & Co., Dublin, withdrawing their tender for medicines. The other tenders for medicines were then gone into. Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin, tendered at 1½ per cent. under list-price; Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, at 5 per cent. under; and Mr. White, Sligo, at 5 per cent. under. Mr. White got the contract, he had been the old contractor, and had given great satisfaction. The medical-appliance tenders were next considered. Messrs. Smith & Shepherd tendered at 7½ per cent. under list-price; the Medical Supply Company, Sligo, at 15½ under; Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, at 16 per cent. under; Messrs. John Clarke & Co., Belfast, at 7½ per cent. under; and Mr. White, Sligo, at 15½ per cent. under. Mr. White amended his tender to 16 per cent. under the list-price, and the Board then declared him the contractor.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Carburetted-hydrogen Lighting.

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Association of Science and Art on March 17, Dr. Hugh Marshall read a paper "On the Use of Carburetted Hydrogen for Lighting." Dr. Marshall showed an experimental installation at work, designed specially for country houses, where water could be used to supply air under moderate pressure.

Chemist and Photographer.

On March 17 Mr. John Cummings, chemist and druggist, Alloa, delivered a lecture to a large audience in the Museum Hall, Alloa, on the exposure, development, and printing of photographs. Mr. Cummings showed a large number of lantern-slides, and, besides, gave a practical demonstration of various processes after his lecture.

A Veterinarian's Testimonial.

At a meeting of subscribers to the Principal Williams Memorial Fund, held at Edinburgh on March 19, it was stated that the free surplus of the fund was 420*l.*, and the Executive Committee recommended that a portion of the fund should be devoted to the painting of a portrait of the late Principal, to be hung in the Council-room of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and that the balance, together with any additions to the fund, should be invested, and the revenue applied for bursary, scholarship, or research fund, or other prize for the encouragement of the study of veterinary science. The recommendations were agreed to.

against her husband, Dr. Grobbelaar, of Cradock, for divorce on the ground of adultery. The parties were married at Carlisle, England, in January, 1884. After evidence had been heard a decree of divorce was granted, the Court ordering the plaintiff to receive half the joint estate, and the defendant to pay costs.

WANT A BETTER-PAID CONSUL.—The Americans at the Cape intend forwarding a petition to Mr. Mark Hanna to see if they cannot persuade the Government at Washington to increase the salary attached to the appointment of Consul-General at Cape Town. The Portuguese Consul at Cape Town draws 1,000*l.* a year, while the U.S. representative

FOR VETERINARY CHEMISTS—Veterinary-Lieut. J. D. E. Holmes, Assistant Bacteriologist at Muktesar, has compiled a "Veterinary Pharmacopœia of Bazaar Drugs," which is being published by Messrs. Higginbotham & Co., of Madras, at 2s. per copy. It deals with the description, uses, preparations, and doses of over two hundred drugs obtainable in most bazaars in India; gives a vocabulary in five vernaculars, a therapeutic classification, information on the preparation and administering of medicines, on weights and measures, and on poisons and antidotes; besides a list of the diseases common among animals in the country, with bazaar remedies, and many useful native prescriptions.

RETURNING HOME.—The homeward steamer of March 8 took with Mr. H. R. Hoyles, M.P.S., F.C.S., and family. Mr. Hoyles has been with Messrs. Treacher & Co. (Limited), of Bombay, for the past sixteen years, and has now severed his connection with the firm with a view to settling down in England. In business and Masonic circles Mr. Hoyle's departure is much regretted. He was very popular with the staff, the junior members of which found him always ready to assist them with his experience and advice. As a Mason, Mr. Hoyles was very well known, having held the post of District Grand Secretary of Bombay and its territories for the last three years, and only relinquished the office on the eve of his retirement. He was twice W.M. of his own Lodge "Concord," the members of which presented him with a handsome solid-silver tea-service at the last meeting he attended. He also received several pleasant souvenirs from the European members of Messrs. Treacher & Co. (Limited), as well as from his own subordinate native staff. A large number of friends gathered at the Ballard Pier, Bombay, to wish him *bon voyage* and to garland him with flowers, as is customary on such occasions.

South African News.

A CHARGE OF PERJURY has been brought against Dr. R. S. Anthony, an American practitioner, of Cradock, C.C. The proceedings are to be conducted at Graaff-Reinet.

'FOREIGNERS.'—The following foreign representatives were in Cape Town when the mail left (March 3). Dr. Raven, of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., London; Mr. R. R. Martin, of Messrs. Frederick Stearns & Co., Detroit and New York, U.S.A.; Mr. R. L. Craycroft, of Messrs. Armour & Co., Chicago; Mr. H. Collard, of Messrs. Newball & Mason, Nottingham; and Mr. Barlow, of Messrs. Burgoyne, Bredidgs & Co., London.

A DOCTOR'S DIVORCE.—In the Supreme Court, Cape Town, on February 27, Mrs. Grobbelaar brought an action against her husband, Dr. Grobbelaar, of Cradock, for divorce on the ground of adultery. The parties were married at Carlisle, England, in January, 1884. After evidence had been heard a decree of divorce was granted, the Court ordering the plaintiff to receive half the joint estate, and the defendant to pay costs.

WANT A BETTER-PAID CONSUL.—The Americans at the Cape intend forwarding a petition to Mr. Mark Hanna to see if they cannot persuade the Government at Washington to increase the salary attached to the appointment of Consul-General at Cape Town. The Portuguese Consul at Cape Town draws 1,000*l.* a year, while the U.S. representative does not get nearly that sum. The Americans say they must have a good man as Consul-General—another Colonel Stowe—and the fact that one is not forthcoming at the salary offering is fully recognised.

FOREIGN DIPLOMAS.—The Government notice, dated February 24, and gazetted the following day, dealing with foreign diplomas, medical and dental, has been received in drug-circles with hearty approval. No medical practitioner or dentist will, in future, be entitled to registration unless the country from which he hails recognises any British certificates. It is understood that the Colonial Pharmacy Board has the matter of foreign pharmaceutical diplomas in hand. The case of the foreign chemist is entirely different from that of the medical man or dentist, in so far as it would hardly be practicable to ask, say, Germany or France to recognise any British certificate of pharmacy; but a stand could

be taken up and both those countries requested to recognise any British papers in their oversea possessions.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.—At a meeting of the South African Philosophical Society, held in Cape Town on February 25, the report of the committee appointed some time ago to consider the "advisability of introducing decimal coinage and the metric system of weights and measures into South Africa, or of legalising these throughout the region," was discussed. The committee recommended the desirability of making the metric system legal throughout the South African colonies as it is in England. This was agreed to by the Society, and a motion recommending the compulsory introduction, at some definite date, of the metric system in South Africa was also adopted, as was a recommendation that a decimal system of coinage be adopted, the sovereign being taken as the fundamental unit. The recommendations are to be brought before the Governments and Administrations in South Africa, and the Cape Government is to be requested to forward the resolutions to the Home Government and all other Governments in the Empire.

BOER HOSPITAL-EQUIPMENT.—In a recent letter from Lance-Corporal W. O. Wilson, R.A.M.C., Waterval-Onder, he says:—

We captured this hospital completely stocked from the Boers. I am still using their drugs, scales, &c., for dispensing, and have sufficient drugs and surgical dressings in stock, all of the finest quality, to last another ten years. Most of the drugs bear the label of Gehe & Co., Dresden, and are in huge quantities; for instance, pulv. tuber. saleb., 10 kilos.; lycopodium, 15 kilos.; antipyrin and antifebrin, about 20 kilos. of each; tannic acid, 10 kilos.; cotton-wool and bandages by the ton; thousands of pills and tablets; also a large quantity of patent drugs, such as sozoiodol, phenocoll mur., uricedin, &c. The dispensary is fitted with 2-kilo. cut-glass panel-labelled bottles; there are four very delicate balances and several other scales.

Lance-Corporal Wilson also sends two telegrams found in the hospital when it was captured. Both are on the familiar pink forms of the Dutch South African Railway Company, which controlled the telegraphic service, and are addressed to Dr. Ham, who had charge of the hospital. The first, dated 28/3/00, was sent by Dr. Eng[ander], and was headed "Urgent." It says: "Have you room for carpenter Van der Laan, who this morning has had a serious attack of malaria? In case you have place, I will send him up to you by train 601." We cannot decipher the name of the sender of the second, but it reads: "Machinist Porroti ill; requests admission to hospital. Wire if he may come. If in the affirmative, also send free ticket." The telegrams are in Dutch.

NOTES FROM THE TRANSVAAL.—The shop of Mr. R. Butters, chemist and druggist, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, was closed for five or six weeks, owing to the illness of the proprietor and the difficulty of obtaining reliable assistants. Mr. Butters, who was suffering from typhoid, is back at work again.—Mr. J. C. Scruby, chemist and druggist, has sold his business in Johannesburg. He bought a business in Harrismith, O.R.C., some time ago, which belonged to the late Mr. Glaisier, and he finds the Harrismith concern better than Johannesburg.—A letter has been sent to Lord Milner from the Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society offering all the information and assistance available "from a society representing 80 per cent. of the chemists of the Transvaal," in view of the inquiries now being instituted by the administration at Pretoria regarding the Pharmacy Laws.—Johannesburg is looking much more lively now, the majority of the old inhabitants having returned, and nearly all the shops having been re-opened. It is noticeable, however, writes our correspondent, that most folk have very little money, and until the mines are all started again and the miners get their big wages, traders will have to content themselves with doing half their usual business.—Nearly all the Johannesburg chemists get their supplies through Durban, the nearest seaport, but for the past three months the military authorities have used the whole of the railway-trucks for the conveyance of stores. Consequently there is a considerable block at Durban, and nothing has come to civilians from that port beyond a few groceries. Port Elizabeth and East London are clearer, but seeing the majority of the chemists import through the Natal port, stocks in Johannesburg are again at a very low ebb.

Legal Reports.

Stamp Act, 1812.

AT Brentford Town Hall on Monday, March 24, before a Bench of six Magistrates (Mr. Montague Sharpe presiding), the Commissioners of Inland Revenue summoned Mr. Francis Sanguinetti (Sanguinetti & Stevenson, chemists, 120 Uxbridge Road, West Ealing, W) for selling, contrary to the provisions of Section 2 of the Act, a medicine liable to stamp-duty which was not duly stamped. Mr. G. H. Denniss prosecuted on behalf of the Board, and Mr. Kirby (Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors for the Chemists' Defence Association, Limited) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Denniss, in opening the case, explained that the offence involved a penalty of 10%.

Mr. Sharpe asked if the medicine was mentioned in the schedule of the Act.

Mr. Denniss, quoting from the general charge of duty (Alpe, page 53, and THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 281), read the passage beginning "and also all other pills, powders, lozenges," &c.

Mr. Sharpe: A whole apothecary's shop, in short.

Mr. Denniss: Yes, your Worship. There is no question that the article sold is liable.

Mr. Sharpe: Narrow it down to the point at issue, please.

Mr. Kirby (interposing) said: The question is whether the article sold is labelled in a manner which holds it out as "beneficial to the prevention, cure, or relief" of influenza.

Mr. Denniss explained that the article sold was pure gum pastilles labelled:—

PURE GUM PASTILLES.

INFLUENZA.

'Delightfully Soothing to Singers and Public Speakers.'

The question is whether that is a recommendation or holding-out within the meaning of the Act. He proceeded to quote the grounds of liability according to the section, stating that the fourth ground—viz., "or which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be by . . . any label . . . held out or recommended to the public by the makers, vendors, or proprietors thereof as . . . beneficial to the prevention, cure, or relief of any distemper," applied to the pastilles.

Mr. Sharpe: If every medicine advertised is liable to duty, why has the Inland Revenue not applied before? The income-tax is high enough.

Mr. Denniss replied that the charge had been going on for many years, and maintained that the wording of the Act is intended to cover everything medicinal.

Mr. Sharpe: Why does the Act not say so?

Mr. Denniss: It mentions exemptions, but this is not in them.

Mr. Kirby, interposing, said that the label was merely a description.

Mr. Denniss pointed out that apothecaries have a certain degree of exemption in regard to the sale of medicines, provided there is no label upon them recommending them for the cure or prevention of maladies, and he handed up the box of pastilles upon which the summons was taken.

At this point Mr. Sanguinetti was asked by the Chairman to leave the dock. He then sat beside the solicitors. The argument was then resumed, and consisted mainly of a conversation between the Chairman and Mr. Denniss as to the wording of the Act—Mr. Sharpe, for example, asking such questions as "Official is, I suppose, the same as official?" and Mr. Denniss replying, "No! Official refers to something pertaining to or made in a shop, while 'official' refers to preparations of the B.P." Ultimately Mr. Denniss said, "This section is so very inclusive that it might be said that if chemists sell cough-mixture they are holding the preparation out as beneficial for a cough, but the Commissioners of Inland Revenue do not demand the stamp-duty in such a case, as they recognise that some designation should be given to articles. If the defendant had stopped at 'influenza,' the Commissioners would not have taken proceedings."

Mr. Sharpe queried whether the label made any recommendation; it certainly specified "influenza," but then it

went off into a side-issue, saying that the pastilles were "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers." That did not say that they were good for influenza.

Mr. Denniss argued that the word "influenza" must be taken with "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers," and together they meant to anyone who saw them lying on a chemist's counter that they would relieve influenza.

Mr. Sharpe: Supposing it had been smallpox instead of influenza. You would not say that "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers" would mean a cure for smallpox?

Mr. Denniss: Yes, it would.

Mr. Jameson, who made the purchase on December 14, 1901, was then called to prove it. He paid 6d. for them. The stamp-duty was 1½d. Cross-examined by Mr. Kirby, he said he had bought the pastilles on his own initiative, and he could not say whether he expected them to prevent, cure, or relieve influenza; in fact, he had not influenza at all. Witness was then asked to look at six similar boxes of Pure Gum Pastilles with a similar label, but with such words as "Glycerin" and "Liquorice and Chlorodyne," in place of "Influenza." Mr. Denniss pointed out that no ailment was mentioned on these labels. Mr. Kirby replied, "They are all pure gum pastilles, and the word 'Influenza' is used solely to distinguish them from others." Witness further stated that he had no instructions to prosecute for such things as Cough-mixture, and agreed that the Inland Revenue circular of instructions states that such designations are allowed.

Mr. Kirby asked him if he knew Alpe's book, whereupon Mr. Denniss said, "It is no authority."

Mr. Kirby: It is, because it is a text-book. Mr. Alpe was a solicitor at Somerset House, and had charge of such matters as this. His book is the only text-book on the subject.

Mr. Sharpe asked if there were any cases decided.

Mr. Denniss replied, "Very few—only three." He quoted the case of Smith v. Mason (*Justice of the Peace*, vol. 38, page 432), in which Dr. Gregory's Stomachic Powder and certain homoeopathic medicines were the subject of a summons.

Mr. Kirby remarked that the reason why there had been so few cases was that chemists had not thought it worth their while to fight, as the Board are generally prepared to compromise. As the Chairman had remarked, there is, he continued, no connection between the word "Influenza" and the phrase "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers" immediately following it, which applied solely to the pastilles.

Mr. Sharpe, interposing, said, "Is this what is known as a patent medicine?"

Mr. Kirby: Not exactly.

Mr. Sharpe: I should like to hear you on this point. The Act says "wherein the person making, vending, &c., claims to have any occult secret or art, &c., or which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be by any notice or advertisement, &c., held out, or recommend." Where is the claim here for art or secret?

Mr. Kirby: There is no claim; but if we come within any one of these grounds of liability, we are liable.

Mr. Sharpe: The article itself cannot create an offence and if an offence is not committed by the person who sells it, I cannot see how it comes in.

Mr. Kirby: The matter rests entirely upon this label, and if it does not recommend the article there is no case.

Mr. Sharpe: There may be a holding-out, but not to all the public.

Mr. Kirby: Is this a holding-out on this label? It does not hold the gum pastilles out to the public, but only to singers and public speakers. I submit that since 1812 a designation or description of the medicine has been allowed by the Revenue authorities, and no more is done here on this label, which the Magistrates can see by comparing the whole seven boxes. The label no more recommends the thing for influenza than it would if it said "Influenza Pastilles," and that is a permitted title. He quoted from Alpe's "Handy-book" examples in proof of this statement.

Mr. Denniss, in reply, said that in such cases as Cough-mixture the Board had recognised that it would be a danger to the public if medicines were sent out without any label at all, therefore they allow such designations as Cough-

mixture, but he claimed that there was something more than that here. He submitted that British Pharmacopœia preparations, if held out as beneficial, must pay the duty, and again went over the various claims and recommendations which involve liability.

Mr. Sharpe referred to Smith v. Mason, remarking, Surely there is a great difference between Dr. Gregory's Stomachic Powder recommended for the cure of flatulence, &c., and the single word "Influenza" on this label?

Mr. Dennis: By putting the word "Influenza" and stopping there, there would be no liability; but the words show that the pastilles are for influenza, and the label goes on to say that they are "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers," which holds them out as beneficial for the irritation of the throat which singers or public speakers have when afflicted with influenza. What is it on the box for if not as a recommendation? As to holding out to a section of the public, it is not necessary to hold it out for all.

Mr. Sharpe: Thank you.

The Magistrates then consulted together, and after about a minute Mr. Sharpe said, "This case has taken a considerable time, but I feel that it has not been wasted, as the case is of public importance. My colleagues have carefully considered this matter, and they feel that if the words had been such as Dr. Gregory's Stomachic Powder there would have been some difficulty; but this word 'Influenza' by itself, and the words 'delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers' are distinctly different, and in a sense the latter counteracts the suggestion that the pastilles are recommended for the cure of influenza. We are clearly of opinion that the word 'Influenza' by itself is not a holding-out, and not sufficient to bring it within the section. The summons must therefore be dismissed."

High Court Cases.

THE SACCHARIN PATENTS.

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Saturday, the case of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) v. Albert Knight came before Mr. Justice Byrne as a short cause on a motion for judgment. Mr. J. C. Graham appeared for the plaintiffs, who carry on business in Manchester, and asked for judgment in default of appearance. The statement of claim alleged infringement, and asked that the defendant, his servants, and agents should be restrained from selling or offering for sale saccharin in infringement of the plaintiffs' patents, and from otherwise infringing the same. Counsel said he had never known a case where the defendant was attacked on so many patents, but it was necessary to join the whole of them. His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiffs as asked, with an inquiry as to damages, delivery up of any saccharin in defendant's possession, and taxed costs.

On Tuesday, March 25, Mr. Justice Kekewich heard the case of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) v. Lancaster. Mr. J. C. Graham, for the plaintiffs, said it was a motion for judgment in default of defence, the defendant carrying on business at Sheffield. It was an action for infringement of the patents owned by the corporation in respect to the manufacture of saccharin. His Lordship granted the usual order for an injunction, as asked, with an inquiry as to damages, and delivery up of the infringing articles.

THE VASELINE TRADE-MARK.

IN the Court of Appeal on Monday, March 24, before Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Cozens-Hardy, judgment was delivered in an appeal by the Chesebrough Manufacturing Company, of New York, from an order of Mr. Justice Buckley, directing the register of trade-marks to be rectified by the removal of the word "vaseline" which had been registered by the appellants as an old mark in 1877. The arguments in the appeal were reported in the *C. & D.*, March 8, and the reserved judgment now delivered in favour of the appellants was dissented from by Lord Justice Cozens-Hardy.

In the course of his judgment Lord Justice Stirling narrated the history of the case, which arose through the attempt of Mr. E. T. Pearson to register the word "vasogen" as a trade mark, the refusal of the Comptroller without the consent of

the Chesebrough Company, and the subsequent motion of Pearson before Mr. Justice Buckley to have the word "vaseline" removed from the Trade-marks Register on the ground that the word "vaseline" was in 1877 used as indicating petroleum jelly manufactured by a particular process, and not the manufacture of a particular firm. Mr. Justice Buckley granted the motion (*C. & D.*, February 16, 1901, page 277). Lord Justice Stirling observed that Mr. Chesebrough took out his first patents in U.S.A. and the U.K. in 1865 for the purification of petroleum by filtration through charcoal, and in 1872 took out in U.S.A. (not in this country) another similar patent for a "new and useful product from petroleum" which he called "vaseline," and which was prepared from petroleum residuum also by filtration but, his Lordship pointed out, in the 1865 patent distillation was also essential, and as the 1872 patent was American only it was open to anyone in England to manufacture the new article as soon as the U.S. patent became known. In 1874 Mr. Chesebrough took out an English patent for the purification of the residuum obtained in petroleum-distillation, the invention being to so refine "vaseline" as to free it from the taste, odour, and colour of petroleum, and the specification recognised that the patentee had no monopoly in England for the manufacture of vaseline not so refined. In the course of the hearing it was established that such a substance had been manufactured in England by many persons, and sold or described under such designations as petroleum jelly, unguentum petrolei, and several fancy names, but not under the designation "vaseline." The name "vaseline" had always been understood in England to denote the manufacture of R. A. Chesebrough and his successors, the Chesebrough Company. In 1877 the word "vaseline" was registered in England in four classes—in Class 3 in respect of "ointments, cold-creams, and vaseline (being an essence prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy)." In 1878 Mr. Chesebrough registered as a trade-mark in America a label beginning, "Petroleum vaseline jelly," and the statement filed in the U.S. Patent Office contained the following:—

Said trade mark consists of the word "vaseline." This word has been generally arranged between the words "petroleum jelly," as shown in the accompanying facsimile (meaning the label), . . . but the words "petroleum jelly" and the corporate name and address may be wholly omitted, and the border may be changed at pleasure, or omitted altogether, without materially changing the character of said trade-mark, the essential feature of which is the arbitrarily selected word—vaseline. This trade-mark has been used in the business of said company and by R. A. Chesebrough, who was its predecessor in the same business, for more than seven years past. . . . Said company has been accustomed to print it upon labels, to be pasted or otherwise secured upon the bottles containing the product or the compound thereof, and upon the paper wrappers in which they put it for sale. It has also been accustomed to emboss it upon the bottles or packages in which the product or compound is enclosed, or, where the compound is of sufficient consistence, to form it directly upon the cakes or tablets thereof. It has also been accustomed to use it upon the bill-heads, letter-heads, envelopes, circulars, and other advertising devices employed in the business.

The question for the present Court was whether in these circumstances it ought to come to the conclusion that the word "vaseline" was, at the date of registration, improperly placed on the register as an old trade-mark under the Act of 1875. It was admitted by counsel for the appellants that the evidence did not establish that the word "vaseline" was used in England as a trade-mark before August 13, 1875; but it was contended that the burden of establishing this lay on the respondents. In his Lordship's opinion this was well founded. The law was so laid down by the Court of Appeal in *In re Leonard v. Ellis's Trade-mark* (Ch.D., 288), and ought to be firmly adhered to. It is manifestly unreasonable to expect that the owners of a registered trade-mark should preserve evidence of the way in which it was used at and prior to the time of registration for a period of twenty years and more subsequently. The respondents had said that the word "vaseline" was in use at the date of registration to indicate, not an article manufactured by the Chesebrough Company, but one manufactured according to the processes indicated in the American and English patents. If this were true, then there would arise the undecided question whether, when an inventor invents a new article, and at the same time invents a word to designate it, he can claim the exclusive use of that word to

denote his own manufacture. His Lordship thought it unnecessary to decide that question. The word "vaseline" was admittedly invented by R. A. Chesebrough, and was capable, previously to 1875, of being employed by him to denote an article of his manufacture. The language of both the American patent of 1872 (which I have named "vaseline"), and the English patent of 1874 (which I term "vaseline"), being ambiguous, the onus of proof lay on the respondents and was not discharged. As regards the entries in the *Trade-marks Journal* of 1877, he thought the word "vaseline" ought there to be read in the same sense throughout, and to be regarded as denoting the goods manufactured by the Chesebrough Company. Dealing with the further objection that the documents relating to the registration in America showed that the user had been in connection with other words, his Lordship pointed out that the filed statement, from which he quoted, indicates that the actual user was not entirely limited in this way, and the respondents had failed to show that the word "vaseline" was not used by itself as a trade-mark in England previously to August 13, 1875. "*Linoleum Company v. Nairn*," which had been relied upon by respondents, simply decided that—

where the inventor of a new substance gives it a name, and having taken out a patent for the invention, has, during the continuance of the patent, alone made and sold the substance by that name, he is not entitled to the exclusive use of that name after the expiration of the patent.

In the present case no patent was taken out in England for the substance which (when manufactured by himself) the inventor named "vaseline." The inventor never at any time was alone the manufacturer and vendor of that substance in England. The substance invented by him was never in England known solely by the name of "vaseline"; on the contrary, it was known under many names, and the evidence being that the name "vaseline" had in England always been confined to the inventor's manufacture, his Lordship held, therefore, that the appeal should be allowed, and an order made refusing the application to rectify the register, but without costs of the appeal.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams concurred.

Lord Justice Cozens-Hardy dissented, and also read his judgment, in the course of which he said there was no evidence that the word "vaseline" was used in England as a trade-mark before August 13, 1875, but the real question for decision was whether it could be or was used as a trade-mark before 1875, and not whether it has since been so used. He had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the word "vaseline" was an invented word to describe an invented thing; and, if so, it followed that anybody was at liberty to make the invented article, which was not protected by patent in England, and at liberty to call it by the name attributed to it by the inventor. In the case of "*Linoleum Company v. Nairn*" Mr. Justice Fry applied this principle to the case of a patented article after the expiration of the patent, and he also quoted this learned Judge's dictum in the *Valvoline* case. It is no doubt true, he added, that petroleum-jelly, which may or may not have been substantially the same in its chemical constituents as vaseline, has been sold in this country under various other names. But his Lordship was not satisfied that this was done before 1875, and, even if it had been done before 1875, he did not think it would have helped Mr. Chesebrough. It followed that, in his opinion, it had been established that "vaseline" was not and could not be an old mark in 1875, and though he did not base his judgment upon this, he had grave doubts whether before 1875 it was ever used alone as a trade-mark, even in America, still less in this country. For these reasons he thought the judgment of Mr. Justice Buckley was correct.

County Court Cases.

SELLING A BUSINESS.

AT the Warrington County Court on March 20, an action was heard in which Alfred Albert Barker, chemist and druggist, of 14 Market Street, Earlestown, Lancashire, claimed 50*l.* damages from Francis Arthur Brown, dentist, Warrington, for alleged fraudulent misrepresentation in

the sale of a business. Plaintiff's solicitor said the defendant wrote to the plaintiff stating that he had seen his advertisement in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* respecting the purchase of a business. He (defendant) was desirous of selling his business of chemist and dentist, which he had carried on at Market Street, Earlestown, for 29½ years. He estimated his net profits at 240*l.* per annum, and the price he asked for the business was 400*l.* The plaintiff went to see him, and defendant agreed to sell the chemist's business separately for 375*l.* provided plaintiff allowed him the use of a room for a few hours each week to carry on his dental business. The defendant estimated the value of the stock at 220*l.* and the fixtures at 125*l.* In addition he wanted 30*l.* for goodwill. Plaintiff suggested that there should be a valuation, but the defendant pointed out that it would be an expensive matter, and it was not necessary, as he (plaintiff) would be able to see him weekly. The plaintiff agreed to forego the valuation on the defendant giving his word that the stock and fixtures were worth what he had stated, and bought the business. A few weeks afterwards plaintiff found on investigation that the stock was worth less than 100*l.* Messrs. Tomlinson, of Manchester, were called in, and valued the stock at 63*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* and the fittings at 114*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, the last-named item including articles valued at 26*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* which the defendant scheduled as stock. It was argued that the business was bought on the strength of the representation of the defendant who must have known the true value of the stock. For the defence, it was contended that at the first interview the plaintiff suggested having a valuation but the defendant said distinctly he was not going to sell by valuation at all. He was selling the business as it stood for 400*l.*, and plaintiff bought on that understanding. Judge Bowen Rowlands said it was impossible to say exactly what did take place, and it seemed to him that, there being such conflict between the evidence of plaintiff and defendant, he ought not to fix the defendant with the consequences of fraudulent misrepresentation; so he gave judgment for the defendant.

THE BALANCE THAT FAILED.

IN the City of London Court on March 21, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by Mr. Albert Hulse, analytical chemist, 22 rue de Vienne, Paris, to recover the sum of 15*l.* against Messrs. Otto Wolters & Sons, analytical-balance makers, 47 Fore Street, E.C. Mr. L. Horton-Smith, counsel for the plaintiff, said that his client paid the money owed for the defendants for a short-beamed analytical balance which he wanted for use in his business as a chemist. He had waited for the instrument for many months, and had been unable to get it. Mr. Wolters, of the defendant firm, explained to the Court that he had made the instrument required for the plaintiff, and that he had packed it thoroughly well, and that it was all right when it left him. When it arrived in Paris, it seemed it would not work, but that had nothing to do with him.

After hearing the evidence, the Judge decided for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

A DENTIST'S LIABILITY FOR HIS WIFE.

IN the City of London Court on March 21, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by Mr. O. Kemp, trading as H. H. Sharland, optician, 7 Thavies Inn, Holborn Circus, E.C., against Mr. Clifford, dentist, 20 Grosvenor Street, to recover the sum of 5*l.*, the price of two pairs of opera-glasses and a gold eyeglass supplied to his wife. Mr. Letts appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Walter Beard for the defendant. It appeared the supply of the goods was not disputed, but it was submitted that Mrs. Clifford had no authority to obtain them on her husband's credit. She had a separate income from her husband. The defendant stated that at first he allowed his wife 1,000*l.* a year, out of which to pay housekeeping and pin-money. That was subsequently altered, although all along 250*l.* a year had been given to her expressly for her own personal use. She should have paid for the goods sued for out of that allowance. He was now allowing his wife 520*l.* a year. The Judge said the plaintiff had a clear case against the wife, but no liability attached to the defendant for the amount. Judgment would be entered for the defendant, with costs.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re REGINALD BETTS, late Market Hill, Framlingham, Chemist and Druggist.—A second sitting for the public examination of this debtor was held on March 21 at the Shirehall, Ipswich; but the debtor was not in attendance. The Official Receiver stated that he had not been able to obtain any address of this debtor since December 27, 1901, though he had seen a letter from him dated December 29, 1901, bearing the Southampton postmark. The Registrar adjourned the examination *sine die*.

Gazette.

Coronation Holidays.

The King in Council has ordered Thursday and Friday, June 26 and 27, to be observed as public holidays.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Peak, C. P., Peak, J., and Peak, H., under the style of John Peak & Co., Soho Street, Pemberton, Lancashire, manufacturing chemists, so far as regards Charles P. Peak.

Ward, A. O., M.D., and Chappell, G. P., M.D., Lansdowne House, Tottenham, Middlesex, general medical practitioners.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS

Metcalf, William, Middlesborough, Yorkshire, drysalter.

Rutherford, Cuthbert, South Shields, Durham, doctor of medicine.

TRUST-DEEDS GRANTED.

Jamieson, William Bannatyne, 61 Montague Street, Rothesay, chemist. Claims to Miller, Stuart & Miller, 53 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, by April 1.

The Executry Estate of the late **Mr. Robt. McCannan Kerr**, druggist, 30 Leith Street, and residing at 15 Wellington Street, Edinburgh, being insolvent, the executrix has granted a trust deed for behoof of creditors of the deceased. Claims to be lodged with Mr. R. A. Craig, C.A., 4 York Place, Edinburgh, by March 29.

CURES FOR WARTS.

(From *The "Lancet"*).

"Revarcinate the patient."

J. D. STAPLE, M.R.C.S., Bristol.

"Oleum terebinthinæ applied many (20) times a day and rapidly dried in before a fire. I know of a case where many remedies had been tried (by a specialist), even excision, unsuccessfully, and which yielded to the above treatment."

HEYWOOD SMITH, Harley Street, W.

"Make the patient wear gloves constantly, keeping the inside of the gloves well dusted with a mixture of equal parts of French chalk and calomel. I find it more useful than anything else."

"SIMPLE SIMON."

"If the warts belong to the papillomata a saturated watery solution of sodium hydroxide will remove them. With a glass rod apply and smear over each wart one drop of the caustic soda once a day or oftener for two or three days."

H. M. SINGLETON, M.R.C.V.S., Ealing, W.

"Apply the following to the warts twice daily:—Papain, 5ss.; acid. hydroch. fort., 5j. Care must be taken that the mixture is only applied to the warts."

THOMAS DUTTON, Manchester Square, W.

"I have found the liq. hydr. nitratis acidus a useful escharotic."

J. G. CARRUTHERS.

THE L.G.B. has assented to the proposal of the Guardians of the Strand Union to increase the salary of Mr. T. H. H. Hobbs, dispenser at Edmonton workhouse, to 160*l.* per annum.

CONTRACTS.—At a meeting of the Holborn Borough Council on March 21 the tender of Messrs. Adcock & Co. for the supply of disinfectants was accepted.—The Guardians of the Strand Union have accepted the tender of Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co. for the supply of drugs.

New Companies & Company News.

WYLIE & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a soap boiler, soap-maker, and chemical manufacturer, carried on by A. R. Wreford at Anerley, Surrey, as "Wylie & Co.," and to carry on the same and any similar business. No initial public issue.

COUNTY MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 2,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (1,000 preference). Objects: To take over the businesses of mineral-water manufacturers, &c., carried on as "Hooper & Co.," at Ryecroft Street, Gloucester, and as "N. A. Lockstone & Co.," at Swindon Road, Cheltenham, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in mineral and aerated waters, bottlers, chemists, drug-merchants, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. Seaman, W. Hooper, and A. Baker. Registered office, Ryecroft Street, Gloucester.

STAR MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (1,000 preference). Objects: To adopt agreements (1) with W. T. London & Co., (2) with S. Holden, and (3) with G. Arrowsmith & Co., to take over the businesses formerly carried on by them, and to carry on the business of aerated and mineral water manufacturers, bottle, glass, and case manufacturers, chemists, drysalters, bottlers, tobaccoists, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are S. Holden, G. H. Goldfinch, J. W. Gillies, G. W. T. Arrowsmith, and A. C. Child. Qualification 100*l.* Remuneration 10*s.* each per board-meeting attended. Registered office, 63 Oxford Street, Whitstable.

SALLYCO MINERAL WATER SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 39,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of making and selling Sallyco mineral water carried on by K. J. Dougall at 110 Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, N.W., as the "Sallyco Mineral-water Company," and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in aerated and mineral waters, and other drinks, ice manufacturers and merchants, bottle and stopper makers, cork-merchants, &c. Minimum cash subscription 10 per cent. of the shares first offered to the public. The first directors are K. J. Dougall, J. P. Humphris, and S. W. Dixon. Qualification 100*l.* Remuneration 50*l.* each per annum. Registered office, 110 Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, N.W.

A. J. WHITE (LIMITED).—The directors have declared a dividend on the preference shares for the quarter ending March 31 at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

CHEMISCHE FABRIK AUF ACTIEN, BERLIN (late E. Schering).—At the general meeting of this company last week a dividend of 10 per cent. was declared. The directors state that business suffered in January and February from the general depression, but revived in March.

SCHWEPPE'S (LIMITED).—The directors recommend a final dividend on the preference shares of 2½ per cent., making 5 per cent. for the year, a final dividend of 3½ per cent., making 7 per cent. for the year, on the ordinary shares, and a dividend of 2 per cent. for the year on the deferred shares. A sum of 6,000*l.* is added to the reserve fund, and about 5,900*l.* is carried forward.

S. CLABER & CO. (LIMITED).—The annual general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at 34 Faulkner Street, Manchester, on March 17. The Chairman, in presenting the report, stated that, after allowing for directors' remuneration, depreciation, &c., the directors recommended that a dividend of 10 per cent. be declared. The new offices and works of the company are expected to be ready in May.

ABERDEEN COMB WORKS (LIMITED).—At the annual general meeting on March 19, Mr. Douglas Stewart, in moving the adoption of the report, said the sum placed to the credit of profit and loss a/c was practically the same as in 1900. Owing to the sale of the York works the company propose to repay the preference shareholders 12,500*l.* at present invested in trust securities. The report was unanimously adopted.

UNITED ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED).—The eleventh annual meeting of the United Alkali Company (Limited) was held in Liverpool on March 21, Mr. John Brock (chairman of directors) presiding. The Chairman moved the payment of a dividend to the preferred shareholders of 7 per cent., and said, in view of the possibility of having to supply themselves with some raw materials, they had transferred 50,000*l.* of the balance to the reserve fund. Mr. E. K. Muspratt, in seconding the motion, regretted that the President of the

Board of Trade had not received with more favour suggestions for the improvement of the Government Bill to amend the patent laws, which favoured foreign competitors as against British manufacturers. The resolution was carried.

BOULLON FLEET (LIMITED).—On March 20, in the Chancery Division, Mr. Justice Buckley had before him the petition of Mr. S. G. Sheppard for winding-up this company. Mr. Herbert Reed, K.C. (with whom was Mr. Stewart Smith) for the petitioner, said the petition had been standing over from time to time 'pending certain negotiations and resolutions for voluntary winding-up. Mr. Stewart Smith subsequently asked, in view of the events which had happened, that the petition, which was one for a compulsory order, should be withdrawn. After further statements by counsel, Mr. Stewart Smith said there would be nothing for the shareholders, and with regard to the actions pending, the property will be insufficient to discharge the debenture debt. The business was stopped in consequence of the winding-up proceedings, but is now being carried on by the Receiver appointed on behalf of the debenture-holders. The Receiver is an officer of the Court, and judgment has been given in the action, so that the Court has perfect control over the business. His Lordship allowed the petition to be withdrawn.

Personalities.

THE MAYOR of Bethnal Green, Mr. C. E. Fox, pharmaceutical chemist, has been presented with a mayoral chain and loving-cup.

LIEUT.-COL. ST. CLAIR CARRUTHERS, I.M.S., is now home on a year's furlough, having completed his investigations in regard to the establishment of a new medical depot and factory.

MR. E. ALLEN BROTHERTON, of Messrs. Brotherton & Co., chemical-manufacturers, has been elected M.P. for Wakefield in the Unionist interest, polling a majority of 981 votes over his opponent.

The Academy and *"Literature"* states that under the title of "Terrors of the Law" Mr. John Lane is publishing three biographical and critical sketches by Mr. Francis Watt, son of the late Mr. James Watt, Haddington. The subjects are Lord Chancellor Jeffreys, the Lord Advocate Mackenzie, and Lord Braxfield, the original of Stevenson's "Weir of Hermiston."

DR. ROBERT HENRY SCANES SPICER is the subject of this week's *Vanity Fair* cartoon. "Jehu Junior" says:—

As house physician he served under Sieveking and Broad-bent, and presently made himself known as a specialist in matters relating to ears and noses and throats. He learned what Sir Morrel Mackenzie and Vienna and Paris could teach him, and was made head of the throat department of St. Mary's Hospital; since when he has cleared many voices, opened many nostrils, and sensitised many tympana.

The ears of the guardians of professional etiquette must be tingling.

PROFESSOR ERNST O. BECKMANN, director of the laboratory of applied chemistry at the Leipzig University, has been appointed director of the new Institute of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, which is being built at Dahlem, Berlin. Professor Beckmann studied at the chemical laboratory of R. Fresenius at Wiesbaden, and at the Leipzig University under R. Kolbe, where he obtained his degree in 1878. He then occupied successive posts as assistant in the laboratories of H. Kolbe, J. Wislicenus, and W. Ostwald. The Beckmann method of determining molecular weights and the Beckmann thermometer are familiar in chemical laboratories.

MR. WILFRED WILSON GIBSON has to be reckoned amongst our minor poets. He is a son of Mr. J. P. Gibson, chemist and druggist, Hexham. Mr. Elkin Mathew has just published in the *Vigo Cabinet Series* "Urlyn the Harper and Other Song," by W. W. G. It is a booklet of sixty-four pages. "Urlyn" is a trifle weird and immature—indeed, the poet attains his greatest success when he allows his fancy to touch subjects of observation rather than of imagination. Thus, "Faring South," a collection of a dozen characters, is ahead of

"Urlyn," and "The Weaver" contains as nice an imaginative expression of aniline dyes as we have yet seen:—

Gathering imperishable colours of the sunless lands.

THERE is a chatty article in the March part of the *Girls' Own Paper* on Dr. Augustine Henry, M.A., L.R.C.P., F.R.S., who is to lecture to the Pharmaceutical Society next month. Miss D'Esterre-Keeling, who writes it, says Dr. Henry "in 1881 entered the Chinese Maritime Customs as medical officer, but Esculapius seems to have had in him only a half-hearted disciple, for eventually we find him an ordinary assistant in the Customs, and in this service, which is so admirably conducted by Sir Robert Hart, he has now attained a very distinguished position.

The Yangtse Kiang is one of the chief waterways of China, but so wild and uneven, in parts so narrow, is its bed that navigation upon it is attended by considerable difficulty. At either side, to a height varying between 2,000 and 6,000 feet, rise rocky cliffs, broken here and there by grassy ridges, on which countless flowers bloom luxuriantly. At the port beneath these mountains, where the great river begins its thousand-mile journey over a vast alluvial plain to the sea, Dr. Henry was stationed in 1883 at a place called I-chang. His favourite pursuit at this time was to

haunt those lonely gorges, searching for rare and beautiful plants, and here it was that he discovered his golden lily. He sent it to Kew, where it was found to be a new species, and the name *Lilium Henryi* was given to it by Mr. Baker, then keeper of the herbarium at Kew. Dr. Henry soon afterwards sent over a box of bulbs collected by him on their native mountain-sides, and these bulbs have produced all the magnificent lilies of this kind now to be seen at Kew Gardens, both in the open and in the temperate house. *Lilium Henryi* is the tallest lily that grows; and the fairies, when they look up through the green leaves cloaking its stem, must think that the golden blossoms so far above their tiny heads are twinkling stars." Dr. Henry is a corresponding member of the Pharmaceutical Society.

SIR THOMAS LAUDER BRUNTON, LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., is appreciatively sketched in the current number of the *Border Magazine*. Borders are proud of Sir Lauder, for he is one of them, having been born in the quiet little village of Bowden, on the south side of the Eildons. He is descended on his mother's side from the very old Border family of Stenhouse, who were established on the Borders more than 350 years ago. Sir Lauder's education began at the parish school in his native village. Subsequently he attended a school at Melrose, and from there he went *via* the Edinburgh Institution to the University. Sir Lauder's own inclinations, after his education was finished, were for engineering as a profession. His father intended him for law, and he actually took law classes for a year, but filled in his spare time in studying chemistry and physics. He came out first in examinations in these subjects, and that decided his profession. After a year's experience in Edinburgh Infirmary he graduated M.D. and B.Sc., obtaining honours and a gold medal for his thesis on "Digitalis," and the Baxter Scholarship in Natural Science. Before settling in London (which, by the way, he was persuaded to by his friend Professor Bardon Sanderson) he spent three years in foreign travel. His subsequent history is pretty well known to pharmacists. He is a great traveller, having visited every country in Europe except Portugal. Amongst the honours heaped upon him the *Border Magazine* states that "he has the coveted distinction of being an Honorary Member of the Pharmaceutical Society. There are only about fifty such members in all."



"C. & D." Nursery Rhymes.



A Perfume King.

"We have known him quite a long time," said the Sachet to the Spray;

"He has nurtured us and reared us, and we've prospered 'neath his sway;
And the splendid garb he gives us makes the world our praises sing;

So I really think he's just the proper man to be a King.

Don't you think so? I imagine that it's just the very thing,
So we'll have a Coronation, and we'll crown him Perfume King."

"They're my sentiments entirely," breathed the golden-mounted Spray;

"And I only was remarking to a friend the other day
That he always makes life pleasant, and he covers many faults,
And he wakes the sluggish conscience with a Whiff of Smelling Salts.

Oh, there's nothing that will rouse one from a dream of dismal vaults

Like a wholesome hearty snuffle of the fragrant C. L. salts."

So the Perfumes came from everywhere, and each one wore a crown,

And cut glass facets sparkled till they dazzled all the town;

And regal Bathodora, in a chariot lined with moss,

Surveyed the sweet creations marshalled up by General Goss.

They to honour Mister Thompson come from Kirn and Charing Cross

To the Fore Street Coronation led by Major-General Goss.

VACCINATION BY CHEMISTS—A correspondent in a medical journal draws attention to the frequency with which chemists who sell vaccine also revaccinate people. This is only another form of unqualified medical practice, replies the editor, which, if done openly and without any pretence on the part of the operator that he is a registered practitioner, the law condemns only indirectly by refusing to assist the chemist in recovering his fees.

Westminster Wisdom.

(By our Parliamentary Representative.)

LEAD-POISONING.

The draft rules as to relaxations in the case of potting firms complying with a Home Office standard as regards the use of lead will, I understand, be issued in a few days.

WELSBACH INFRINGERS.

The Home Secretary stated on March 21, in reply to Mr. Weir, that four persons were last year committed to Holloway Gaol in connection with the infringements of the 1893 Welsbach patent.

CELLULOID DANGERS.

After Easter Lord Saltoun is to ask H.M.'s Government to make some modification in the composition of the celluloid used in making combs and collars, and to place such regulations and restrictions upon its sale as will render impossible the recurrence of the many serious burning accidents which have already resulted from the spontaneous combustion of celluloid articles.

MONKEY-LYMPH.

Several weeks ago a question was put to Mr. Long regarding Dr. Copeman's experimental inoculation of monkeys. Further interrogated on the subject, the President of the Local Government Board says he is aware that Dr. Copeman inoculated monkeys with smallpox material, and that he inoculated calves from the vesicles so produced. A considerable number of children were vaccinated with the lymph obtained from these calves, but none of the vaccinations were performed by Dr. Copeman. The right hon. gentleman has no information as to whether the experiments were conducted with the knowledge of the parents of the children vaccinated, but they were not performed with the knowledge or sanction or at the expense of the Local Government Board.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Weir is indefatigable. He is to ask the Secretary of State for India on April 8 to supply military hospitals in India with modern surgical instruments, those with wooden handles being his abhorrence.

The use of diachylon plaster in the form of pills by *cuncte* women is exciting the indignation of Mr. Coghill, who, after the Easter recess, proposes to bring the matter under the notice of the Government in the form of a question as to why the stuff is so easily procured.

THE SUGAR QUESTION.

Members of the House who are specially interested in the prospects of the home and colonial sugar industries are endeavouring to arrange for a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in regard to the difficulties that are feared in connection with the operation of the new convention, 1903.

FIRST PART OF SESSION ENDED.

The adjournment of Parliament for the Easter recess marks the end of the first part of the Session. It cannot be claimed that the weeks of debate have been fruitful in legislation. Government business is not in a very promising condition, and with private members' Bills matters are much worse. The Midwives Bill is almost the only one of the latter which has made substantial progress in the Commons. It has been amended by the Standing Committee, and now stands on the order-paper for consideration. As I stated last week, there is very little chance of the Medical Act Extension Bill ever reaching a second reading. Other measures waiting for second reading are the Government's Patent Law Amendment Bill, the Trade-marks Bill, the False-marking Bill, and the Shops Bill. With the exception of the first-mentioned, which will of course have the advantage of special facilities, it is doubtful whether more will be heard of these handlings until the day of the "massacre of the innocents." But from a pharmaceutical point of view the period has not been barren of interest. Considerable information has been elicited as to the doings of the Poisons Committee, and in various matters, some connected therewith, useful hints of influences at work have been obtained.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Sir Herbert Maxwell

in his letter published last week tells us too much and too little. That he will conduct the inquiry and consider the evidence with a judicial mind, and that he himself is absolutely disinterested, need not be argued. Judging from his books and from his past career, I should say that he possesses an extremely sound critical faculty, and whatever conclusions he may ultimately come to about the legal conditions under which poisons should be sold, I, for one, will be confident that they are the result of careful thought. But the presentation of that petition "in favour of the Trade in Poisonous Compounds Bill" was a very bad error of judgment. It is quite true, as Sir Herbert says, that "a member of Parliament is not committed in the slightest degree by presenting a petition"; but for all that it is such a common custom for the public to submit their petitions through the hands of sympathetic members that an association has grown up in the public mind between the M.P. and the petitions he presents. Sir John Lubbock used to be the natural agent for petitions in favour of the Early Closing Bill, and Sir Wilfrid Lawson probably presented thousands in favour of the Local Option Bill. Sir Herbert Maxwell does not say that the horticulturist who asked him to present the petition was a constituent of his, and I suspect he would have said this if it had been the case; for that would have been his best excuse. But even then as Chairman of the Committee Sir Herbert would have been more than justified in asking petitioners on either side to choose some other representative.

Sir Herbert says, further,

"I never heard of the Bill in favour of which this petition was made, but that I considered to be no affair of mine." But it was an affair of his. Sir Erskine May says it is the duty of members to read petitions before they present them, and to return them if they are not in order. This petition was clearly not in order, as it was in support of a Bill which was not before Parliament. One House will not receive a petition in favour of a Bill which is before the other House; *a fortiori* a petition in favour of a Bill which is before neither cannot be legitimate. Moreover, I should have thought that in his capacity of Chairman of a Committee appointed to inquire into the law relating to the sale of poisons, and finding that "upwards of 1,000 horticulturists" were petitioning Parliament to pass a certain new Bill on that subject, it would have been only legitimate curiosity on Sir Herbert's part to ask to see a copy of that Bill of the existence of which he informs us he had "never heard."

The Medicine-stamp Acts

have been pretty thoroughly threshed out in the past, but their contemplation always reveals new beauties. Mr. Atkinson's contribution to the investigation read before the Western Chemists' Association was timely, and produced a good discussion; but it was apparently rather hastily put together, and it was marred by two or three inaccuracies to which it is right that attention should be directed. It may almost be assumed, too, that Mr. Atkinson wrote his paper without first studying Alpe's "Handy-book." At any rate, he made no allusion to that work, which still remains the most authoritative exposition of the laws in question in existence. As an illustration of the incomplete information with which Mr. Atkinson was furnished I quote his statement that "there is no record of

any united effort having been made to approach the Board with a view to getting some of the difficulties of the Stamp Act more clearly defined." In the *C. & D.* of April 22, 1886, will be found a long report of an important conference at Somerset House between delegates from the old Chemists' and Druggists' Trade Association and representatives of the Board of Inland Revenue. One result of the discussion which then took place was the official Summary of the Acts which Mr. Atkinson quoted in his paper. Another was the exceedingly valuable agreement by the Board to give their opinion on labels which chemists might submit to them. Mr. Atkinson's statement that verbal recommendation of a medicine may incur liability is also misleading. Proclamation of the virtues of a medicinal compound from the top of a tub in a market-place might be construed as a "public notice" within the meaning of the Act. But verbal recommendation to a customer in a shop could never be so interpreted. The statement that such words as "recommended by physicians" did not in the opinion of Somerset House constitute liability is in direct conflict with what Mr. Alpe, who for many years at least spoke the views of the authorities, declared. Lastly I do not think the trade's acquaintance with the Acts is so elementary, or that the discussion of them in the trade journals has been so desultory, as Mr. Atkinson assumes. If the members of the W.C.A. really needed the information that they must stamp a portion of Fellows's syrup when they dispense it unmixed, it was well to give it them; but in that case they must have been strangely inattentive to their trade literature, and would deserve no pity if they were fined.

It is a Concession

on the part of the Board, says Mr. Atkinson, that we may describe a preparation as a liver-mixture without stamping it. This is at least doubtful. The Board must first establish that the words "liver-mixture" hold out or recommend the preparation for the prevention, relief, or cure of some disease; and we have a right to claim that this interpretation shall be in a legal sense "strict." To satisfy a High Court it will hardly be good enough to show how the man in the street uses and understands the expression. The deduction must be justified by the grammar of the English language. Mr. Glyn-Jones, on the other hand, loftily scorns concession altogether. "A just law," he says, "should not admit of concessions." That sounds pretty, but it is fallacious. No statute has ever been so perfectly drafted as to provide against all possible contingencies. As cases of injustice arise Acts have to be amended; but there are certain laws, including those relating to the Revenue, which may only be enforced by a responsible authority. Thereby to an extent the inherent deficiency of language is remedied by the exercise of discretion, which is only another way of saying the granting of concessions.

The Hint to the Wholesale,

conveyed in the letter of "An Ordinary Retailer," will be endorsed by all those chemists who pay their accounts monthly; and these are the wholesale firms' best customers, whether they buy little or much. A clear week between the last statement and the day of payment would be a great convenience. We are familiar with the imperious condition that "unless this account be paid by the 15th inst. the discount cannot be allowed." Why should not we also make our stipulation that "unless the monthly account be rendered by the 7th of the month it will not be paid until the following month," retaining, however, the right to the best terms?

As an Appendix

to the facts about Thomas Dover which appeared recently, a serious mistake occurring in the sketch of that worthy in the "Dictionary of National Biography" may be mentioned. The writer of that sketch, Norman Moore, M.D., states that the diaphoretic powder known as Dover's powder is "composed of 10 gr. each of opium, ipecacuanha, and sulphate of potash." Fortunately the "D.N.B." is not a legal standard.

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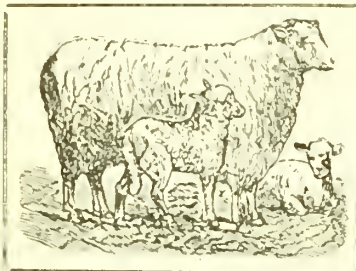
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"Delightfully Soothing."

THE Chemists' Defence Association have done well in their first fight with the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, for they have won. It was in regard to the label reproduced in our issue of January 26, page 128, and in which the essential particulars were:—

PURE GUM PASTILLES.

INFLUENZA.

DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING
TO SINGERS AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS.

We questioned, when we mentioned the matter before, if the Association would win, and the fact that they have is entirely due to the skilful manner in which the defence was worked up and presented to the Magistrates at Brentford. The Chairman, early in the proceedings, said to the Government counsel, "Narrow it down to the point at issue"; but it did not really reach that until the Association's solicitor submitted half-a-dozen boxes of pastilles of the same series as the influenza one, with "Glycerin," "Voice," "Licorice and chlorodyne," and similar words in place of "Influenza," and explained to the Magistrates that the middle word was in each case simply a designation or description. As a matter of fact, the defendant had bought an assorted dozen of pastilles, labelled as they were by the makers, and retailed them at 6d. the box. There was no recommendation on his part, and the phrase "delightfully soothing to singers and public speakers" applied equally to the other kinds of pastilles. The Magistrates recognised that the recommendation, if any, was not specific, and dismissed the summons. We do not wish to exaggerate the importance of the decision. It cannot be extended to labels bearing a specific recommendation.

—c g,

COMPRESSED LOZENGETTES.
INFLUENZA.

A NEVER-FAILING REMEDY.

This would undoubtedly be liable. Far more important, to our thinking, is the demonstration that the case gives of the advantage to chemists and druggists of having an Association to which they may entrust matters of this kind and have them attended to by specialists. It does not pay the individual to fight the Revenue authorities, and for that reason nearly everybody submits to privately arranged penalties for alleged infringement of the Stamp Act. In the case of those who are members of the Chemists' Defence Association the question of compromise does not arise, but merely the law of the matter and its bearing upon the customs of the trade generally. It is the Association's business to look after these things, and the Association not only relieves the individual of the worry and expense attendant on legal proceedings, but helps to make the prosecuting authorities more cautious, as they are when they realise that they have to fight an Association, and not a chemist who has his own business to attend to. There is a moral in the result for those pharmaceutical enthusiasts who are continually wailing, "What can the Pharmaceutical Society do, with only 6,000 members? Give us the other 10,000 on the register, and you shall see what we will do." The Chemists' Defence Association, with a modest thousand or so, puts such theories to shame.

Medicine-label Decisions.

THE following are labels which subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST have recently submitted to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for opinion. We quote them as a guide to others, and because the labels have some peculiarity which raises doubt in each case:—

Children's cough-mixture.

Directions for use.—One or two teaspoonfuls, according to age.

N.B.—A cough or cold, however slight, should on no account be neglected, as it frequently leads on to troublesome and dangerous consequences, particularly with those who are delicate and have weak lungs.

Marked "Not liable as altered," the words "when the cough is troublesome" having been removed from the directions. Note the N.B. paragraph, which is neither a direct nor indirect recommendation of the mixture. The doubtful point about the next label was the words "The Manchester":—

Shake the bottle before use. | Mens sana in corpore sano. |
Iodized | sarsaparilla, | or | the Manchester | blood cleanser.

Price 1s. Dose.—For an adult, one tablespoonful every three hours; above twelve years, a teaspoonful and a half, between meals.

This the Department have marked "Not liable," as also the following label:—

Health, strength, and energy.
Phosphorus, quinine, steel, and nux vomica tonic elixir.

This preparation enables the system rapidly and safely to benefit by the tonic, strengthening, nerve restoring, and brain-stimulating properties of these valuable medicines. It forms an agreeable and elegant compound, which can be safely taken by the most delicate persons.

Dose.—For an adult, one tablespoonful, in a wineglass of water, two or three times a day, after meals.

This preparation according to the Act is labelled Poison, if taken according to prescribed doses is perfectly harmless.

A few weeks ago the printers of the last label intimated that it is "now liable"—apparently an erroneous impression. The next example is a handbill, which was declared by the Commissioners to be liable. It was worded as follows:—

Your Children will grow Healthy and Strong
if, when ailing, you give them [Jones's]
Extract of Malt and Cod-liver Oil.

A perfect combination of Malt Extract with Finest Norwegian Cod-liver Oil.

Easily Digested and Palatable.

Plain Cod-liver Oil cannot always be tolerated by the stomach; when this is so, it simply decomposes, forming hurtful acids, which excite nausea, vomiting, colic, and diarrhoea. When combined with Extract of Malt, this is not the case. The oil is assimilated with ease, and it seems almost impossible to have a better form of nutriment.

We suggested that the first two lines should be altered to make them read:—

Healthy and Strong Children
by giving them.

This handbill (adapted to cod-liver oil emulsion) has now been marked "Not liable." The only additional matter on the second handbill was a footnote, thus:—

N.B.—W. Blank sells at lowest cash prices and maintains a high standard of quality.

Note.—His only address is at Blanktown. No branch establishments.

At the same time the following label was marked "Not liable":—

A Nutritive Chemical Food.

An Emulsion composed of the Finest Al Cod-liver Oil, and the Hypophosphites of Lime, Soda, and Potash.

Cod liver Oil Emulsion and Hypophosphites.

Highly palatable. No oily taste. Easily digested.

In this preparation Cod-liver Oil is presented in a pleasing and readily digested form, combined with valuable tonic and nutritive salts, which render it doubly efficacious.

Keep in a cool place, and shake well before using.

Directions.

Dose.—For adults, from a dessert to a table spoonful three times a day, after meals. For children, one teaspoonful, or more, according to age.

We would be glad if other subscribers would send us specimens marked officially "Liable" or "Not liable," so that the trade as a whole may compare their own labels with them.

Pepsin=preparations.

MANY years ago Dr. Charles Symes, of Liverpool, made investigations on the activity of pepsin-preparations containing alcohol, and more recently (*C. & D.*, November 6, 1897, page 723) he repeated some of his experiments, with the result that he modified his opinion, stating that as much as 14 per cent. of absolute alcohol may be contained in the pepsin solvent without interfering with the proteolytic power of the ferment. These observations are recalled by a thesis on the influence of alcohol upon pepsin, for which M. Eug. Thibault has obtained the Paris Phar. Doc. degree. The experiments are not exactly along the lines followed by Dr. Symes, but they are well worth referring to. M. Thibault used throughout a pepsin of verified potency. He prepared solutions with varying proportions of alcohol, keeping them for stated periods and trying the digestive power at the end thereof. The method of comparing the results of the digestive-power upon fresh and dried fibrin was to filter the digest and add nitric acid to the liquid, the degree of turbidity produced being noted in numbers as follows:—

		No.
The addition of 30 drops of nitric acid gives:	Turbidity <i>nil</i>	5
	" slight	...
	" fair	...
	" almost a precipitate	2.5
	ght precipitate	2
The addition of 5 to 10 drops of nitric acid gives:	An abundant precipitate ...	1
	An abundant precipitate ...	0

In the first series of experiments he reduced a 1-per-cent. solution of pepsin to half strength by the addition of sufficient absolute alcohol and water to give mixtures containing 5, 7½,

10, 12½, 15, and 20 per cent. of alcohol. At the end of three days the 5 to 10 per cent. alcoholic solutions were reduced in proteolytic potency from 5 to 4·5; the 12½ to 4; the 15 to 3; and the 20-per-cent. to 2; after three months they were all reduced to 0. A much stronger solution of pepsin was then taken, so that the resulting alcoholic mixtures digested (when freshly prepared) their own weight of fresh fibrin, and a fourth of their weight of dried fibrin. A solution containing 11 per cent. of alcohol assayed 2·4 when prepared, 1·5 at the end of two months, and 0 at the end of four months; a 14·7 solution assayed 1 when prepared and at the end of two months, and 0 at the end of four months; while a solution containing 29·3 per cent. of alcohol had no digestive power at all. Certain pepsins offer a greater resistance than others to the action of alcohol, but all undergo a rapid weakening when the solutions which contain them are made in the proportions given by the Codex—that is to say, when 20 gr. of these solutions contain a quantity of pepsin capable of completely peptonising 10 gr. of fresh fibrin or 2·50 gr. of dried fibrin. It is to be noted that solutions stronger in pepsin than these do not become so rapidly valueless, and that is why the experiments of Chassaing, Bordet, and others are not altogether inconsistent with M. Thibault's results. The Codex formula is—

Pepsin in powder	...	...	...	5
Distilled water	...	...	...	45
Alcohol (80-per-cent.)	...	...	...	15
Syrup	...	...	...	15
Essential oil	...	...	...	to flavour

M. Thibault is clearly of opinion that in this elixir or any alcoholic solution of pepsin made in similar proportions the activity of the ferment is impaired by the alcohol. In wines the decrease is less prompt and complete than in solutions purely alcoholic, but it ultimately does take place. It may be remembered that Dr. Symes came to the conclusion that alcohol merely inhibits the action of the pepsin, for he found that when he carried on artificial digestion in a permeable membrane, so that the alcohol might diffuse, digestion was not impaired. This point has not been considered by M. Thibault, but it is immaterial, since he proved that active preparations of certain alcoholic strengths become inactive after keeping, and that is an observation which is valuable to pharmacists.

Cod-liver Oil.

THE rising market for cod-liver oil is just now exercising the minds of buyers, as there are several signs favourable to the continued upward movement. Since the beginning of the year an advance of about 30s. per barrel has taken place in the price of medicinal oil, to-day's quotation for new oil being from 100s. and upwards, the price at the beginning of the season being about 71s. There were few, if any, buyers who contracted at this low figure for forward delivery, as there was little anticipation of a rise, and purchasers have been buying chiefly for immediate delivery, which fact has led to a scarcity of oil on the spot. There are two prominent features about the market this year, the first being that although three to four million more cod have so far been caught, the yield of oil up to date is 3,000 barrels less, this being attributed to "lean livers." This may be best illustrated by the fact that last year it took 500 to 700 livers to produce one hectolitre of oil, whereas this year it requires from 1,200 to 1,400 livers to produce the same quantity. The second feature is that the supply of medicinal oil from previous years, usually abundant, is practically non-existent on this occasion, either in Norway, London, or the United States, owing to the fact that the 1901 fishing was the smallest for a number of years. As the season for fishing is now pretty well advanced, March

being usually the most critical month in the trade, there is little time left for a turn about before the Lofoten fishing ends. As noted a fortnight ago, the early Easter also has a detrimental effect on the market, because the fishermen take a good holiday at Easter, and thereafter follow the cod to the most northern fishing-ground—Finmarken. The Finmarken catch last year yielded only 6,500,000 cod, or 1,800 barrels of oil, and this year's is not likely to be more. Taking the above facts into consideration, there is every prospect, judging from the present outlook, that still higher prices will prevail, although the upward movement may be affected to some extent by the competition which always exists between holders in Norway and London. Newfoundland, which is the second largest producer of cod-liver oil, is not likely to affect the range of prices much, but Newfoundland oil is now offered comparatively cheap, "fine pale oil" being quoted 65s. per barrel on the spot.

CANNABIS INDICA.

In connection with the question of the activity of this most useful drug and its preparations, discussed before the North British Branch last week, and commented upon this week, it may not be out of place to mention that large quantities of the drug are shipped to the United States, where the physiologically active is retained, and much of the remainder that does not come up to the standard of the importers is re-exported to London. This fact has a material bearing upon the discussion here of what is active and what is not, and it rather discounts the value of chemical and physical data.

SPREADING ITS INFLUENCE.

The Society of Chemical Industry for some reason allowed Victorian chemists to found a little society of their own, but has been more successful in regard to Canada. There a local section has been formed, with headquarters at Toronto, while occasional meetings will be held at Montreal and elsewhere. Professor W. R. Lang, of the University of Toronto, has been elected Chairman, and Professor G. P. Girdwood (Montreal) and Mr. Harold van der Linde (Toronto) Vice-Chairmen. The committee has been chosen from all parts of the Dominion. Although Victoria has not come in, arrangements are now being made to form a colonial section of the Society, with Sydney, N.S.W., as its headquarters. We presume the Victorian Society will join in.

THE SPECTACLE-MAKERS.

Sir Wm. Hart Dyke, the Master of the Spectacle-makers Company, wrote to the *British Medical Journal* last week to explain that candidates for the Company's diploma are not examined in sight-testing, but in theoretical and applied optics, spectacle-making and frame-fitting, heat, and elementary mathematics, so as to ensure that the holder has an intelligent knowledge of his trade. This week Mr. Aitchison and Mr. Bullar (of Southampton) reply to Sir Wm. Hart Dyke. Mr. Aitchison says the original intention of the Optical Society is not being carried out, and that the present methods are calculated to do serious harm, because holders of the diploma advertise themselves as "qualified by examination," when, as the Master confesses, they are not examined in sight-testing. Mr. J. F. Bullar, a well-known South Coast oculist, also objects to the way some of the Fellows of the Company advertise to test sight "entirely free of charge." The public, Mr. Bullar writes, are misled; they do not know the wholesale price of spectacles, and they are unaware that the price they often pay for them amounts to a large fee for "testing the sight," in addition to a handsome profit on the glasses.

THE POWER OF THE RETAILER.

The tobacco-war appears to be giving retail tobacconists a good deal of anxiety, which is surprising in view of the

offers made by the two sides, one offering a bonus of 50,000% a year, and the other 200,000% a year if the retailers will do what they tell them. If the retailers sit tight and "say nuffin," selling all the time as many as they can of their own cigarettes, they will reap more than they can from the bonuses. The matter of 8,000 telegrams to retailers will not divert support entirely to "Guinea Gold." There are 343,323 tobacco-dealers in the United Kingdom, besides 25,224 occasional dealers, and we do not believe there is a cigarette in the market which any one of them cannot afford to refuse to stock. When it comes to distribution of specialities to the public, the retailer has the key to the outlet, and the policy which he should follow is to seek a secured and fair profit, without restriction as to his trading, and no coddling.

A CURIOUS OBJECTION.

In an application which came before the Licensing Justices of Westminster on Monday afternoon, a point of considerable interest was raised by counsel which, if permitted to stand as precedent, is likely to considerably affect trade and also the liberty of the subject. Colonel Probyn, who is the chairman of Hooper, Struve & Co. (Limited), aerated-water manufacturers, was objected to as an adjudicating Magistrate in the licence under discussion because the company mentioned supplied the hotel asking the licence with aerated waters. Mr. Biron, who made the objection, and asked Colonel Probyn to retire from the Bench whilst the matter was being discussed, said that as Colonel Probyn had a personal interest in the hotel-keeper getting what he asked, it would render these proceedings null and void if he took part in the discussion and ultimate decision. Colonel Probyn admitted that he was chairman of Hooper, Struve & Co.; but the hotel-keeper, in reply to a question, said he also got his "minerals" from Schweppes and the Diamond Mineral-water Company. But Mr. Biron pressed his objection, and Colonel Probyn retired from the Bench during the hearing of the case. But if aerated-water manufacturers who happen to be J.P.'s have such objections as these to meet, they had better at once hand in their commissions. It is quite a new form of objection, and one which should not be allowed to drop.

DOSAGE.

Dr. John Kent Spender contributes a farewell retrospect of fifty years' practice to the *British Medical Journal*, in which he emphasises the useful results to be obtained by the administration of medicines in comparatively small and frequent doses. Nearly all great medicines are also great poisons, and the problem is to get the greatest amount of good from a medicine with the least amount of harm. The B.P., 1885, was the first Pharmacopœia to give a table of doses, but no instructions were given as to the number of doses, or the interval which should separate two doses:—

Many people insist that, well or ill, they cannot take a particular medicine because it "upsets" them, or "disagrees" with them in a real or fancied way. The supposed disagreement may be caused partly by the medicine being taken in a bulk which disturbs a natural function. Break up that bulk (so I advise) into four, and administer each of those four exactly four times as often. In this manner we get the same therapeutic influence with the minimum of disturbed function; and the influence is not impeded or thwarted—possibly it is even favoured. If a quantity termed X, given to a patient every fourth hour, causes symptoms of more or less toxic gravity, then split X into x, x, x, x , and each of these petty factors may be administered every hour with no more evident effect than if they were so many rations of cold water.

Several examples are then given of the wonderful effects of minute doses of opium, morphine, and tartrated antimony. The therapeutic method outlined has not had, the doctor concludes, any recognition in authoritative books on the practice of medicine, but it has proved to him a trustworthy ally which seldom failed in great emergency.

Business Changes.

MESSRS. NEEDHAMS (LIMITED) have bought the business of Mr. W. E. Bambrough, at 48 High Street, Notting Hill, W.

NEW business-premises at the Crescent, Seascale, Carnforth, have been acquired by Mr. Fred. T. Patman, chemist and druggist, of Railway Terrace, Seascale.

MR. A. HALL, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business at 154 Marine Parade, Brighton, formerly carried on by Mr. E. B. Vizer, pharmaceutical chemist.

Marriage.

BATTLE—BOWER—At St. Catherine's Wesleyan Church, Lincoln, on March 17, Ernest William Chatterton Battle, pharmaceutical chemist, Ripon, to Harriette, eldest daughter of Mr. J. H. Bower, Lincoln.

Deaths.

BAKER.—On March 22, at 11 Eastgate Square, Chichester, Mr. Edward Baker (of the firm of Baker & Son), chemist and druggist. Aged 85.

CAPIES.—At York, on March 14, Mr. John Henry Cooper Capies, chemist and druggist. Aged 44.

COTTERILL.—At "The Poplars," West Bromwich, on March 23, Mr. Thomas Cotterill. Aged 68. Mr. Cotterill had been employed as a chemist for many years at the Oldbury Alkali-works of Messrs. Chance Brothers. He had been for years a member of the West Bromwich School Board.

EVANS.—On March 20, at 17 Stuart Street, Aberdare, Mr. Thomas Whitty Evans, chemist and druggist. Aged 58.

HOWORTH.—On March 20, at his residence "Trebarwith," St. John's Avenue, Bridlington, Mr. James Howorth, pharmaceutical chemist, late of Doncaster. Aged 78.

IRVINE.—At Granton, N.B., on March 20, Mr. Robert Irvine, F.C.S., consulting chemist to Messrs. A. B. Fleming & Co. (Limited), of Granton. Aged 63. Mr. Irvine was in his younger days an assistant to the late Professor George Watson, professor of technology at Edinburgh University.

MANSON.—At Christmas Island recently, Patrick Thurburn Mason, M.B. Lond., eldest son of Dr. Patrick Manson, F.R.S. Dr. P. Thurburn Manson was engaged in studying the possible prophylaxis of beri-beri in the Malayan Archipelago, when he met with a fatal accident. It will be remembered that when his father conceived the notion of testing the transmission of malaria by mosquitos he wished to do so by allowing mosquitos infected in the Roman Campagna to bite healthy persons in Britain. His son, who has just died, at once offered himself as a subject for experiment, and was successfully infected with malaria.

MUDIE.—At Leeds, on March 15, Mr. Isaac Mudie, chemist and druggist. Aged 52.

SMITH.—The funeral of the late Mr. Joseph de Carle Smith, formerly head of the firm of Messrs. Smith & Sons, chemists, Norwich, whose death we reported last week, took place on March 24, at the Rosary Cemetery. In accordance with the deceased gentleman's simple tastes, there were no flowers or display, and the body was placed in an earth grave. Besides the family there were present the staff and employees of Messrs. Smith & Sons, Sir Harry Bullard (M.P. for Norwich), the Mayor and many members of the Corporation, with representatives of the Port and Haven Commission, magistracy, the School Board, Board of Guardians, and other local bodies.

SMITH.—On March 17, after a long illness, Mr. J. W. Smith, who traded as chemist and druggist at Centre House, Bridlington. Mr. Smith succeeded to the business established by his father.

WRAY.—At Lemington, on March 21, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Thomas Wray, chemist and druggist. Aged 29.

Winter Session.

Royal Institution.

THE Friday evening discourse on March 21 was by Professor Otto N. Witt, Berlin, on

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN COLOURING-MATTERS.

Mr. George Matthey was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. Professor WITT first referred to the fact that love of colour is innate in the human race. The production of colours from coal-tar has grown to such proportions that it is viewed from the standpoint of national economy, whilst nations vie with each other in producing colouring-matters in friendly, but eager, competition. Professor Witt here mentioned that he was particularly flattered when asked by Sir Wm. Crookes to address a Royal Institution audience, because it was exactly twenty-five years since he, as a young chemist, read a speculative paper on colouring-matters before the Chemical Society. The theories advanced were so novel that the Publication Committee refused to publish the paper, and the President, in conveying his regrets, hoped he (Professor Witt) might in the future be able to place the matter before a Royal Institution audience. "The theories then advanced have been confirmed and accepted by chemists, and I am here to place them before a Royal Institution audience." (Applause.) The fundamental question naturally arises, What is a dye-stuff? The question is difficult to answer, but in order to become a dye-stuff a substance must not only be so intensely coloured that it can communicate its own shade to colourless substances holding it in solution, it must not only be soluble in water or other liquid suitable for preparing a dye-bath, but it must also be soluble, and even much more soluble in the colloid which forms the substance of the textile fibre than in water. Experiments were then shown in which ether extracted the colour from an aqueous dye-solution and *vice versa*, and also a striking experiment in which, on shaking together a solution of magenta acetate in ether and a solution of trichloro-indigo phenol in water, the dyes changed solvents. Similar experiments were also shown with fabrics, the point brought out being that a dyed fabric is nothing more or less than a solid solution of the dye-stuff in the substance of the fibre, unless there are secondary chemical influences, such as when mordants are used to precipitate the dye-stuff after its immigration into the fibre.

The necessary combination of solubilities for a dye-stuff is rare in coloured substances; of an inorganic nature, and in the vast domain of organic substances of the aliphatic series few dye-stuffs are met with, but in the aromatic series, where the power of selective absorption of light is very frequent, it would be curious if they were not of common occurrence. Since the physical properties of every compound are direct functions of its molecular constitution, it is easy to believe that this peculiar combination of solubilities would be the result of certain general conditions fulfilled in many members of the aromatic group; and the theory he proposed twenty-five years ago was simply an attempt to discover those conditions by investigating the constitutional peculiarities of all those dye-stuffs whose constitution was known in those days. In the molecule of every colouring-matter whose constitution is known certain atomic constellations have been observed, which seem to be essential, and of which two must always be present—chromophores and auxochromic groups. Of the former some two dozen are known, all agreeing in the fact that they could not exert their influence except in the presence of the auxochromic groups, of which very few are known. There must exist a law that governed the formation of chromophoric groups, but so far it has not been definitely established. The knowledge of the chemical causes of the physical properties of colouring-matters is continuously developing, and quite lately some definite views have been formed about the connection of the chemical constitution of the aromatic bodies with that form of selective absorption of light known as fluorescence. Much work has been done on the constitution of the azo-colours, the introduction of which is the direct result of early efforts to conduct the search for new colouring-matters on definite scientific principles. The

number of dye-stuffs of this class that might be prepared is extraordinary, and it has been computed that 3,159,000 different ones are at present easily accessible. Of these at least 25,000 form the subject of patents in Germany and other countries, while over 500 are manufactured on a large scale. Azo-dye-stuffs can be produced at will to dye wool or silk or cotton, to dye slowly or quickly, and to stand soap, or acid, or alkali; and this possibility of adjusting their properties with almost mechanical precision has been the cause of the greatest successes of the colour-industry. But while this field bears its rich harvest, others are by no means neglected, though perhaps the greatest and most brilliant success of the chemistry of dye-stuffs has been the industrial synthesis of indigo.

Professor Witt then proceeded to explain the steps which led to the production of artificial indigo by the Badische Anilin- und Soda-Fabrik, and which have already been told in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Incidentally it was mentioned that the idea that natural dyes are permanent and artificial dyes fugitive to light has no scientific foundation.

The lecturer finished a very brilliant discourse by remarking that in 1825, in the very house in which they were assembled, Faraday discovered benzine, the original specimen of which, prepared by his own hands, was on the table. That specimen they could only look upon with a reverential mind, for what a development has sprung from that first attempt to unravel the mysteries of the aromatic series! Science as well as industry has been revolutionised by the investigation of the derivatives of benzine, the world embellished by the gay and brilliant dyes of which it is the mother-substance, and an inexhaustible mine of subtle scientific thought opened up. The study of these dye-stuffs has become a domain of chemistry unsurpassed for variety and fascination; it teaches a lesson even to those who are apt to look upon science as a pastime for those who lack ability for practical life, for they could not help seeing that in this instance the most intricate science has led to something eminently practical and valuable.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE second general meeting of the present session was held at the Royal Institution on March 20, the President (Mr. Harold Wyatt, jun.) in the chair. The first subject mentioned was

FORMIC-ACID BATHS.

Mr. J. T. HORNBLOWER asked if any of the members of the Association had ever heard of formic acid being used as a medicament in connection with vapour-baths, or had they heard of formaldehyde being used in the same way.

Mr. P. H. MARSDEN said he believed sulphur candles had quite gone out of use, but he had not heard that formic acid had replaced them, as the result of the acid when used in this way had not been satisfactory. He understood that the alformant tablets and lamp had been used with considerable success for the destruction of green fly.

Mr. H. WYATT, jun., said that he had known formaldehyde to be used on the Italian frontier for the disinfection of individuals who were suspected of being in contact with febrile patients, but he had not heard of formic acid being used in connection with vapour baths.

VARIOUS IDIOSYNCRASIES.

Mr. H. B. Morgan sent a note saying that in November he was called upon one night to destroy a dog which had been suffering from fits. In order to destroy the dog he used a box having an aperture in the top through which he inserted a funnel, and then poured hydrocyanic acid through the opening. After he had allowed sufficient time to elapse, he opened the box to see if the dog was dead, and in doing so inhaled such an amount of the fumes that he went staggering about the place crying for water and thinking he was done for. After considerable interval and the application of suitable stimulants he recovered and had quite forgotten the incident. Shortly after, however, he had need to handle cyanide gauze, and on unrolling the bundle he was seized with the same unpleasant feeling, and therefore he could not attribute his experience to imagination. He found that it was almost impossible for him now to handle

the cyanides without more or less being affected with the same symptoms.

Mr. A. S. BUCK said Mr. Morgan's experience was probably an unusual one. So far as he was concerned, he always found it better to employ a syringe when poisoning a dog.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY said he could fully sympathise with Mr. Morgan's experience, because some years ago he underwent an operation under ether, and now whenever he inhaled ether he had the most disagreeable sensations.

Mr. J. HOCKEN said he had met with somewhat similar manifestations, although not in connection with the cyanides.

The PRESIDENT stated that he had a strong aversion to vanilla, which he was unable to powder without experiencing a severe cold, accompanied by headache.

Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM knew of an assistant who was affected very seriously by powdered ipecac.

Mr. ABRAHAM then read his paper upon

"PHARMACOPEIA REVISION."

The author first raised a protest against the method of deciding whether an article should or should not be included in the Pharmacopœia by calculating how much of it is used. He thought all preparations should be included in the Pharmacopœia that are of recognised therapeutic value, their inclusion being necessary to insure their being of the requisite standard of strength and quality. The Pharmacopœia is not primarily produced for the use of pharmaceutical students, nor is it very desirable to reduce its size by nominally omitting preparations which are really there. He had in mind the strong tincture of ginger, which although directed to be made for the preparation of the syrup, is not named in the index. Some of the criticisms of the Pharmacopœia are most extraordinary. One man blames the Pharmacopœia for want of uniformity in not measuring all liquids because it measures some. For his part, he thought the Pharmacopœia might facilitate the operations of the practical pharmacist by giving the weight instead of the measure of various liquids. At present the pharmacist has to find out these weights for himself. Who, for instance, in making 4 gals. of liniment of camphor would think of measuring the olive oil? To do so, even in making a small quantity, is a great waste of time, and involves the cleaning of at least one extra vessel; moreover, it would be more satisfactory that the camphor should be present in a fixed percentage by weight; it is now 8 to 29 by weight. The Pharmacopœia could also greatly facilitate operations by stating the exact proportion of water necessary to produce the required volume in such preparations as liquor morphinæ hydrochlor. and liq. strychninæ. In the absence of such directions it is necessary, if accuracy is desired, to wait until the mixture of spirit and water has cooled to the normal temperature before the preparation can be finished—a most unnecessary and troublesome proceeding. As the contraction caused by the mixture of spirit and water is well known, the requisite amount of water might easily be stated. If this practice were adopted, it would be a great convenience in many cases, but especially in the case of dilute hydrochloric and nitric acids, which have to be left for hours to cool.

Aque.—Glass (*P. J.*, 65, 16), points out that essential oils (or many of them) are perfectly soluble in distilled water, and do not require the addition of any objectionable impurities such as calcium phosphate. Nothing but a little agitation with water is required for dissolving essential oils in water—even warm water, as suggested by Glass, being unnecessary. Oil of aniseed is, however, quite insoluble in water, and a satisfactory product cannot be made, unless some spirit is used or something employed to suspend the oil.

Syrupus Calc. Lactophosph.—This preparation is said to be perfectly satisfactory, but Mr. Abraham has found it to decompose. He thought the proportion of sugar should be increased.

Syrupus Aurantii Flor.—It has been lately pointed out what an unsatisfactory process is adopted for this. It can be made in five minutes by rubbing 1 lb. of sugar with 8 fl. oz. of orange-flower water and adding 3 lbs. of simple syrup, mixing, and straining—a method he has used for years.

Syrupus Scilla.—Merson recommends making this in the cold. The speaker used to do this, but gave it up, because he considers that the active principle of squill being a glucoside, it is considerably altered by heat, and although it

may be that a preparation made in the cold would be more active than one made with heat, it must be remembered that the object of the Pharmacopœia is the attainment as far as possible of uniformity. It would therefore be undesirable that the syrup should be made in the cold unless such a process were officially recognised, and this should not be done until careful physiological experiments have shown that the unaltered glucoside is actually best for medicinal purposes. The evidence of experience points in the opposite direction, for not only has the syrup always been made with heat, but in making the oxymel acid is used as well as heat, which must greatly facilitate the change of the glucoside. Moreover, the tincture which is made in the cold is very little favoured, and it would therefore appear more than probable that it is the products of the decomposition of the glucoside which are actually wanted in the preparation.

Standardisation.—Lyon suggests that an alkaloidal standard should be fixed for powdered nux vomica, because the Pharmacopœia gives a dose for it. The speaker never remembered seeing it prescribed for human beings, and if they began to standardise crude drugs which are used for horses, the lot of the pharmacist will certainly not be a happy one. Would it not be better to standardise the horses, to discover their susceptibility to the drug?

Tinct. Camph. Co.—Why not use a given weight or measure of spirit of camphor? Then the preparation can be made in few minutes.

Tinct. Opii.—Lang criticises the process for making this. It is a very troublesome process.

Tinct. Valerianæ.—It seems a pity that this tincture has been omitted from the Pharmacopœia. It would have been much better to have omitted the ammoniated tincture, because any prescriber can add sal volatile to the simple tincture.

Unguenta.—Hallberg (*P. J.*, 63, 13), praises the ointments of the British Pharmacopœia unreservedly, but Mr. Abraham wonders whether he would do so if he had the experience of them that British pharmacists had. Some of the ointments are most unscientific and unsatisfactory. Carbolic-acid ointment is especially so, and capsicum ointment is a shocking mess. The paraffin ointment-basis, although a nice preparation can be made of it, is unnecessarily troublesome, and its composition is founded upon a misconception. The idea, he presumed, was that as the paraffins were not capable of becoming rancid they were peculiarly suitable for ointment-bases, but there are plenty of natural products from which a much better base could be prepared, and which are to all intents and purposes absolutely non-irritating.

There has been considerable discussion with reference to the stirring or otherwise of ointments during cooling, but he did not know of any ointment in the British Pharmacopœia that can be prepared in a state of perfection without stirring.

DISCUSSION.

The PRESIDENT said he quite agreed with the protest which had been made in reference to the exclusion of many things from the B.P. With regard to the tr. zingib. fort., he thought it a great pity that it was not included in the index. The weighing of thick liquids, such as treacle, would commend itself to chemists when dealing with large quantities. With regard to water of aniseed he said he had found that, by mixing the oil with warm water at about 140° F. and shaking it, a very good product was got; and this had been his experience with aq. anethi as well. With reference to the preparation of the syrup of squills by the cold and by the hot method, he thought the point brought out by Mr. Abraham was most important. It had never struck him in that way before. As to the tr. valerian., he was quite in accord. As to the ointments of the B.P., he was strongly of opinion that, if one were to get three separate men to make three separate batches of ung. hyd. oxid. rub., each would turn out a different product.

Mr. T. S. WOKES said he was quite in accord with the preceding speaker and the writer of the paper with regard to the exclusion of preparations of drugs from the B.P. As to the insolubility of ol. anisi in water, he found a very satisfactory product could be made by agitating the oil with water. In reference to tr. valerian. ammon., his experience was that the compound tincture is the kind most ordered, but during the past week he had a prescription which simply read, "tr. valerian." He had his doubts

whether the old form or the new form was to be used, and he would like to know from the meeting whether he would be justified in sending out *tr. valerian. simplex* or *tr. valerian. ammon.* in such a case? As to the making of ointments, he was sure that the most lamentable results would follow if the ointments were not stirred.

Mr. J. T. HORNBLLOWER said he quite agreed with Mr. Abraham's remarks as to the retention of some of the preparations in the *Pharmacopœia*, especially *tr. zingib. fort.* and *tr. valerian.* He would like to know what had been the general experience in making tincture of opium, as it is now made with a less alcoholic menstruum than before, and without heat, and does not keep as well as previously.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY said that soon after the introduction of the *Pharmacopœia* he had requested Mr. Catford to determine the quantity of water required to make up the acids that Mr. Abraham had spoken about, and in two or three weeks he had worked them out, and they were duly published. As to the waters of the *Pharmacopœia*, it was a question to his mind whether they were right in using the oils at all, as the flavour of the oil, as a rule, does not compare with the flavour of the drug operated on, and the products of distillation were not always soluble in water. As to the paraffin basis, he thought that possibly it might be an advantage to have a basis which was not absorbed by the skin. He had made the B.P. ointments successfully in porcelain basins, and he thought it would be undesirable to let them set without stirring, as there was a tendency on the part of many chemicals to separate out in patches.

Mr. A. S. EUCK said the demand for *tr. zingib. fort.* was growing, and he thought that it was a mistake to omit it from the present B.P. He found that oil of peppermint readily mixed with water by agitation, and a satisfactory product resulted; but aniseed, dill, and cinnamon were much better when distilled from the drugs.

Mr. P. H. MARSDEN said he had made large batches of *tr. opii* for years by the B.P. method, and had never had any instance of a deposit.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Abraham for his paper.

The paper by Mr. Edwin Dowzard, F.C.S., upon

THE REFRACTIVE INDEX OF COD-LIVER OIL

was then read by the SECRETARY. The author stated that probably the best test for the genuineness of cod-liver oil is the determination of the refractive index. It is a peculiar fact that Norwegian oil has a higher refractive index than Newfoundland oil. The following table illustrates this. The oleorefractometer was used for the determination of the refractive figure, and the standard oil was standardised against glycerin, as described in the *C. & D.* (vol. lvi., No. 1,044):—

Newfoundland Oil		Norwegian Oil	
Number of Samples	Refractive Figure, 22° C.	Number of Samples	Refractive Figure, 22° C.
3	+42.0	6	+44.0
2	+42.5	4	+44.5
4	+43.0	12	+45.0
4	+43.5	2	+45.5
1	+44.0	6	+46.0
1	+44.5	3	+47.0
		1	+48.0
Total 15		Total 31	

It will be seen that the refractive figure of Newfoundland oil varies between +42 and +44.5, while that of Norwegian oil varies between +44 and +48.

This difference may be of use to distinguish the two oils. For instance, a genuine cod-liver oil having a higher refractive figure than +44.5 will probably be Norwegian, if it is over +45, the sample is almost certain to be Norwegian. If the figure be below +44, the probability is that the oil is Newfoundland; if below +43.5, it is almost certain to be Newfoundland.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Dowzard.

CALCIUM PHOSPHATES.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY exhibited under the microscope the following specimens of calcium phosphate, in order to illustrate their easy identification by the use of that instrument.

1. Calcium phosphate from bone ashes which practically consist entirely of amorphous.

2. Tri-calcic phosphate, prepared by mixing solutions of calcium chloride and B.P. sodium phosphate, consisting of di-calcic phosphate (CaHPO_4), which is distinctly crystalline.

3. Tri-calcic phosphate prepared by mixing solutions of calcium chloride and tri-sodic phosphate, which is amorphous.

4. The commercial article, consisting of tri-calcic phosphate amorphous, di-calcic phosphate crystalline, and of calcium sulphate, also crystalline.

Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association.

Mr. J. F. TOCHER, F.I.C., Peterhead, last week addressed the members of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association on his University education scheme for chemists and druggists. The meeting was held in the Association's rooms on Thursday afternoon, March 20, Mr. W. L. Currie presiding. The address which Mr. Tocher gave differed in some respects from that which he had delivered in Dundee on the previous day, and it was chiefly explanatory of the scheme. After he had delivered the address, the CHAIRMAN questioned whether the discussion should be open or not, and to this Mr. J. P. GILMOUR quickly responded that the private discussion in Edinburgh had been a mistake, and there was no reason why they should not speak freely in public. This view was promptly adopted. Thereupon Mr. ANDERSON RUSSELL initiated the discussion, and moved a resolution thanking Mr. Tocher, which was seconded by Mr. J. W. SUTHERLAND. Mr. JOHN LOTHIAN followed, stating that although he was not so sanguine about the success of the proposal as Mr. Tocher, he approved of it generally. Mr. DAVID WATSON also approved the scheme, stating that the reasons for scarcity of young men entering the trade are long hours and lack of educational facilities. Mr. J. P. GILMOUR followed on similar lines, and Mr. T. MABEN almost said ditto, but he pointed out that the real drawback to the scheme would be the scarcity of students—his belief being that there would not be enough in pharmaceutical circles in Scotland to support a department in each of the Universities. They could not expect University lecturers to be appointed for two or three students; at any rate, 99 per cent. of students in Scotland would be unable to take advantage of the scheme. Mr. ABBOTT was of the same opinion, but Mr. RIDDELL severely criticised these pessimistic views. Mr. DUNLOP also spoke in favour of the scheme. The CHAIRMAN wound up the discussion by stating that the apprenticeship question would be solved by making shorter hours, and the Pharmaceutical Society fixing a definite period of curriculum after passing the Preliminary examination. He strongly protested against Mr. Glyn-Jones's remarks at the Pharmaceutical Council meeting when Mr. Tocher's scheme was submitted. The resolution was unanimously agreed to, and Mr. TOCHER briefly replied.

The foregoing is a telegraphic report received from our correspondent too late for last issue. We are also indebted to Mr. T. Dunlop, Secretary of the Association, for a report since received. The fact that it is not used should not be construed into an attempt on our part to burke discussion. We simply have no room for it.—EDITOR.

School of Pharmacy Students' Association.

THE last meeting of the present session was held on Friday evening, March 21, at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. The attendance was not so good as usual, owing to the absence of most of the Major students, whose examination is close at hand. However, those who were present tackled the "Impromptu Discussions" with the same characteristic vigour which served to bring back the Inter-Pharmacy Football Cup to the "Square." Mr. Harry Martin occupied the chair, and seemed very much at home in that position. The various topics chosen for discussion proved very interesting; several being old friends with new faces. The subject of apprenticeship was responsible for many personal reminis-

cences, whilst the division of the Minor, a compulsory curriculum, and a degree in pharmaceuticals were items which brought out many varied opinions. "Domestic" affairs also had their turn and led to some amusing speeches. When the contents of the "hat" were exhausted, the CHAIRMAN, in a few remarks, said that he hoped everyone had enjoyed the evening, and, indeed, all the meetings that had been held during the winter. The proceedings were then brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Festivities.

A DINNER IN THE HOLBORN.

The Chemists' Assistants' Association brings together at its dinners as good a representation of metropolitan pharmacy as anything else in the *annus pharmaceuticus*. Seniors are not numerous in the companies; they reserve their strength for the more dignified assembly which gathers in May. The company in the Venetian Chamber of the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday evening of last week numbered about 200, and the President of the Association (Mr. J. W. Peck) had on his right the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, the Vice-President, and Mr. W. L. Howie; Dr. A. P. Luff, and two empty chairs, which Dr. Attfield and Mr. Naylor should have been in, were to his left. By the time the speaking and music commenced the company was as cheery a one as could be wished for; then the barometer steadily began to fall. And why? Because, we think, the Association's toast-proposers were under the impression that set speeches were expected of them. Not a single speech made in giving a toast had got a fourth its length before conversation had become general and reporters had laid down their pencils, the speeches being practically inaudible. The musical part of the programme also should, for such an occasion, be the best obtainable. Last week's "left something to be desired"—if we may use a time-encrusted reportorial phrase. In this annual function the Association has an opportunity that others would be glad to get, therefore we venture upon these criticisms. Already the Dispensers' Association can beat it in the smoking-concert line, and it would be a pity if the C.A.A. allowed some other body to provide the best unofficial pharmaceutical dinner of the year.

After the toast of "The King," Mr. H. S. Coupland proposed "The Medical Profession," with which he coupled the name of Dr. A. P. Luff—a past master in the art of pharmacy. Dr. Luff, in a short, bright speech, said that as a pharmaceutical chemist and a physician they might, perhaps, regard him as a devil's advocate; but he yielded to no one in the high opinion of the mutual interdependence which united pharmacy and medicine. He remembered that Mr. Newsholme had described pharmacy as the hand-maid of medicine. It was a wicked thing, perhaps, to dissent from an opinion expressed by the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, but he ventured to think the relationship was not that of maid to mistress, but wife to husband, and, quoting Tennyson, he said that "in the long years liker must they grow." There was, he continued, a dangerous decline in the art of prescribing. He had drawn attention to the faults on the medical side, and he now asked pharmacists to do their best to prevent the growth of a terrible evil and injustice to the public, doctor, and chemist.

The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," by Mr. C. E. F. Vallet, was next, the speaker touching upon the Society's membership and the apprenticeship question. Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, in replying, said he was somewhat troubled that he could not respond on behalf of more than 6,000 members of the Pharmaceutical Society. There were some 16,000 chemists on the register, and he was ambitious to get a much larger membership of the Society. As the President, he had often to interview Government Departments, and was frequently told that he represented only a section of the chemists of Great Britain. The Society were terribly handicapped by not having the entire chemists of the country at their back. If pharmacists generally were not satisfied with the work done, let them alter the Council and try to make them do more in the direction they desired. The Council were not afraid of criticism, and were honestly doing their best to improve the position at present occupied by pharmacists. Referring to the apprenticeship question, he said that he had recently given his own experience in the pages of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,

but he did not think he was any worse for the training he had then undergone. In order to train a man successfully as a pharmacist, a compulsory curriculum was necessary. Before long the Council might have to ask for their support to get a Bill through Parliament to impose this, and, while he believed in the division of the Minor, he thought it necessary to get some compulsory training previous to coming up for examination.

Mr. Frank A. Rogers proposed "The Chemists' Assistants' Association." He yielded to no one, he said, in kindly feeling towards the Association, which had set itself to do a certain work and had accomplished it. There was an element of danger in this, but the Association must remember that it could not lull itself into a position of false security. The President, in responding, said the C.A.A. had experienced a rise in interest—more, perhaps, on the social than the scientific side—during the present session. The attendances had improved, and they had gained twenty-five new members; but the impromptu discussions and debates were not so well supported as they should be.

The last toast—"The Visitors"—was given by Mr. W. Garsed, and Mr. W. L. Howie replied in a short, humorous speech, and commented on the difficulty of keeping an Englishman away from a good dinner.

The proceedings closed with "Auld Lang Syne."

The Chairmen of the spur-tables were Messrs. Strother, Ellis, Vallet, Coupland, Rogerson, Latreille, and Solomon.

NORTHAMPTON DINNER.

The annual dinner of the Northampton Chemists' Association took place on March 20, at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton. Mr. W. McKinnell (President of the Association) presided over a company numbering about thirty, which included Mr. W. D. Mayger (Vice-Chairman), the Mayor of Northampton (Councillor F. G. Adnitt, J.P.), Councillor James Barry, J.P., Dr. A. C. Clifton, and Mr. T. H. Woolston (the three last named of whom were formerly chemists in Northampton), Mr. T. Oldham (Towcester), Mr. C. Bond-Smith (Potton), Mr. Robinson (Wellingborough), and Mr. F. W. Ashton (Idris & Co.). After the royal toasts, Mr. Barry proposed "Success to the Pharmaceutical Society and the Local Association." The Pharmaceutical Society, he said, has accomplished a great work. It has raised the status of the chemist, and so far as its influence went it ensured that qualified persons only should be entrusted with the important duty of dispensing. Mr. Oldham, in supporting the toast, said they did not want to see the stores selling things which only chemists should sell. He hoped that the Pharmaceutical Society and the College of Surgeons could agree, and declare that no chemist should prescribe and no doctor dispense. Mr. North (Northampton) responded to the toast. The Vice-Chairman proposed "The Mayor," and the toast was accorded musical honours; after which his Worship proposed "The President," and paid a high tribute to the personal qualities and business-capacity of Mr. McKinnell, whom he had known for more than five-and-twenty years, to which the President replied. Other toasts followed.

WAKEFIELD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The formation of the Wakefield and District Chemists' Association was celebrated by an inaugural dinner, held at the Strafford Arms Hotel, Wakefield, on Wednesday evening, March 19. The chair was taken by the President (Mr. W. Pollard), who was supported by Messrs. W. R. Maud, Vice-President (Pontefract), R. C. Walshaw (Huddersfield), A. H. Waddington (Bradford), J. Wood (Barnsley), S. N. Pickard (Ossett), and a good attendance of members, although, chiefly owing to illness, the number was not as large as it otherwise would have been. "The King and Royal Family" having been toasted, "The Pharmaceutical Society" was proposed by Mr. J. Judge, and responded to by Mr. J. H. Chaplin, the Divisional Secretary. Mr. A. H. Waddington, in proposing the toast of "The Wakefield and District Chemists' Association," congratulated the members on its successful inauguration. Speaking of the suggested formation of a federation of the local Associations in the West Riding, he referred to the misunderstanding which had arisen between the Dewsbury and Bradford Associations, and explained that the attitude of the Bradford Association was not taken out of antagonism to the proposal, but simply

from a desire to know more fully the aims and objects before committing themselves to any definite action in the matter. He was in favour of such a Federation, whose object, he thought, should be to influence and foster the work of the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. W. R. Maud responded in a racy speech, in which he referred to the benefits to be derived from such associations, especially by chemists in small towns and outlying districts. Other toasts were "Kindred Associations" and "The Visitors." The speech-making was agreeably interspersed with songs by Messrs. S. N. Pickard and C. S. Fletcher, who were accompanied by Mr. C. W. Duffin.

AN EDINBURGH SUPPER.

The annual supper of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association took place in the Imperial Hotel, Edinburgh, on March 21, when about eighty members and friends sat down to supper. Mr. John Geo. Slater (President) occupied the chair, and Messrs. William Duncan and William B. Cowie acted as croupiers. After an excellent supper, and the loyal toast, Mr. Donald McEwan proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." He said the standard of knowledge in chemistry and pharmacy was immensely higher than it was sixty years ago, and for that the Society was in great measure entitled to credit. He mentioned other things that the Society has done, and gave a fresh interest to the vernal Society and Council question by comparing the former to the mass and the latter to the molecule, saying that the molecule might have conceivably different properties from the mass. Mr. Pos, in the course of his reply on behalf of the Society, said one sometimes heard a man denounce to all and sundry his business and everything belonging to it. The very next day that man would be heard complaining that he could not get an apprentice. Could they wonder that he should not? There were many good features connected with their calling, and anyone who took a proper interest in it would find much variety and many things to interest him. The returns might not be very extravagant, but were not to be despised. For one thing, it should be remembered that the qualification was now worth at least 30% a year more than it was, say, thirteen or fourteen years ago. That was undoubtedly due to the way in which the Society had enforced the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts. Mr. D. B. Dott proposed "The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association," and referred to the good work and excellent papers which had been read at their meetings. He understood that, like all similar Associations at the present time, they had had some difficulty in keeping the attendances up to the standard of former years. He thought this was rather due to the greater strenuousness of modern life, and to the greater amount of home-work and study for examination. But he thought it a great mistake to stay away from such meetings. The President, in replying, said the Association had been the nursery from which had come many of those who were to-day in the front rank, and carrying on the work of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Trade Association; and they had present the principals of three schools of pharmacy, who were all past-Presidents of their Association. Other toasts followed. Songs were contributed by Messrs. A. Murray, G. H. C. Rowland, R. Butchart, R. Henderson, J. Tait, J. A. Cardno, J. P. Gilmour, and J. P. Gibb; and Mr. J. A. Crighton acted as accompanist.

GLASGOW SMOKE.

The Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association held a highly successful smoking-concert in the Co-operative Rooms, Glasgow Cross, on March 21. A bright and varied programme of songs and readings was capably carried through by Messrs. Dickson, Dobson, Pyffe, A. Lynn and J. Lynn, McKinnon, Pfeiffer, and Gilmour; and Mr. Mennie made an efficient accompanist. At the close of the fish-supper with which the proceedings began, the Chairman (Mr. J. P. Gilmour) gave a brief account of the past history and services of the Association.

THE FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT appeared recently in a U.S.A. newspaper:—Dear Sirs,—My wife's mother lay at death's door for nearly three years. She took one bottle of your famous "elixir of life" and it pulled her through.

—A GRATEFUL SON-IN-LAW.

"Research=work and Pharmaceutical Advancement."

THIS was the title of a paper read by Mr. Wm. Lyon to the Chemists' Assistants' Association in Edinburgh on Wednesday evening of this week. It was a rather lengthy piece of writing, in which the author deprecated (to put his point concisely) the selfishness which makes chemists mind their businesses, and not only leave "research" alone, but discourage their assistants from the latter sphere of labour. There are certain "lacks" in the whole matter, however; first, lack of proper training, because apprentices are employed to "work." In this connection Mr. Lyon, who poses as a sort of local and universal critic, referred to what members of the Edinburgh and District Chemists' Association recently said about apprenticeship. After a passing remark on long hours, he suggested that the office-bearers of the Assistants' Association should, before next session, arrange with those of other associations for a concerted movement during the winter. The want of such co-operation, we gather, is the second lack; the third is the lack of facilities for employers to their assistants for the pursuit of shop-experiments—e.g., in regard to the improvement of B.P. galenicals. He thought such work could very well go on with ordinary shop-routine. He also deplored that the laboratories in York Place are not open to researchers. Mr. Lyon proceeded to give his young hearers sound advice as to the necessity for method in their work, and suggested that the pharmaceutical Press should stimulate young workers by publishing lists of subjects for investigation. Chemists' Associations should do the same. The training of apprentices was next touched upon, and in this connection he asked, Why are those firms who manufacture such enormous quantities of medicinal specialties able to find in every other pharmacy an outlet for the produce of their factories? The answer is simple, he said. The pharmacist's neglect was their opportunity. Those manufacturers perceived the change that was taking place in every industry. They saw clearly that progress was the order of the day, and applied themselves assiduously to improving the methods of manufacture, investigating new drugs, and supplying medicinal preparations in a form that would find ready acceptance alike by prescriber and consumer. Had the majority of pharmacists been alive to their interests, they could have kept the production of many of those preparations to themselves. But instead of utilising the knowledge they gained during their student days as a basis for enabling them to find out the most suitable and acceptable forms of supplying drugs, they merely resigned themselves to the subordinate position of being retailers of the produce of those wideawake and energetic manufacturers, little reckoning that by doing so they were allowing a net to be woven mesh by mesh around them, from which they will ultimately find it impossible to free themselves, and thus, bereft of all claim to be considered skilled compounders of medicines, they will become but slaves in the world of industry, instead of being, as they ought to be, pioneers of progress and improvement. Finally, Mr. Lyon referred to the Pharmaceutical Council's encouragement of research, and to the present day rush for sufficient school-instruction to get through the Minor examination.

Recent Wills.

DAVISON.—The gross value of the estate of Mr. Richard Davison, formerly a chemist and druggist at Driffield, who died on December 4, has been sworn at 16,533*l.* 5*s.*, including net personality 15,813*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

MATTERSON.—The gross value of the estate of the late Mr. Edward Hardwick Matterson, pharmaceutical chemist, Dawsbury, who died in January, is 8046*l.*, and the net personality 7,917*l.* Probate has been granted to his executrix, Mrs. Frances Stuhlmann, sister of the deceased, and the Rev. Charles Walsingham Hamilton, of Broughton, Skipton.

BRADFORD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of this Association, held on Tuesday evening at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, the topic was a debate on "Dispensing and Prescribing," introduced by the President (Mr. Arthur Hanson). We hope to deal with it fully next week.

A FELLOW SINNER.—Not long ago a bishop of stately mien and sanctimonious expression went down to a small country town to lecture. He went to a chemist's shop, and, in a tone that froze said, "Young man, do you smoke?" "Y—yes, sir," replied the trembling youth. "I'm sorry, but I learnt the habit young and I haven't been able to get rid of it yet." "Then," said the great divine, without moving a muscle or abating the awful solemnity of his manner, "you can tell me where I can get a good cigar."

Trade-Marks Applied For.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 19, 1902.)

- "SAFETENE" (no claim for the word "Safe"); for a chemical for producing gas. By C. H. Worsnop, 5 Carlton Place, Halifax. 243,717.
- Device of an egg on end; for nitrates of aluminium, ammonium, calcium, and magnesium, salts of hydroxylamine, and compounds of rare earth, &c. By Dr. O. Knöder & Co., Strasse 12, am Verbindungs Kanal, Plötzensee, near Berlin. 242,281.
- "OPOSOLEO" (no claim for "Opos"); for a medicine. By E. Ruskin, 11 Mount Villas, Lansdowne Hill, West Norwood. 243,782.
- Star device with the letters "R A J"; for photographic goods. By G. A. Watson and A. A. Brooks, 81 Tower Buildings, Liverpool. 242,770.
- "AREMAC" and "RAYLITE"; for cameras. By T. P. Bethell, 69A Pembroke Place, Liverpool. 243,687 and 243,690.
- Device and the word "MIRELLA" (the essential particulars); for a gold paint. By A. E. Guttmann & Co., 102 Fore Street, E.C. 243,323.
- "PAROZONE"; for chemicals. By the Parozone Company (Limited), 11 Bothwell Street, Glasgow. 244,149.
- "TAMKURIN"; for a medicine. By Parke's Drug-stores (Limited), 173 High Street, N.W. 241,898.
- "VINCA" (no claim for "Viu"); for a rheumatic liniment. By W. Morison, 28 Main Street, Anderston, Glasgow. 243,381.
- "VITALOS" (no claim for "Vital"); for foodstuffs. By F. A. Schouten, 102 Fenchurch Street, E.C. 242,962.
- "SALVARO"; for foodstuffs. By the Mazawattee Tea Company (Limited), Tower Hill, E.C. 243,932.
- "BANANINE" (no claim for "Banana"); for invalids' and infants' foods. By W. A. Jones & Co., 51 North John Street, Liverpool. 244,000.
- Device (the essential particular); for a cleanser. By the Washing-made-Easy Cream Company, 128 Broughton Street, Cheetham, Manchester. 244,080.
- "COAGULINE"; for a polish. By Kay Brothers (Limited), Stockport. 244,110.

Trade Notes.

THE LATEST NEWS is an attractive window-feature in Messrs. A. & F. Pears' house in Oxford Street, W., tape-telegrams being displayed on a notice-board.

A SPECIAL Easter offer of perfumes, salts, and sachets is made by Vinolia (Limited) this week. It means an extra 10 per cent. on 2*l.* orders, and the offer remains open until April 12.

"DAISY" announce this week a prize painting-scheme, in which 100*l.* is offered in prizes. A portion of the prize-money is reserved for chemists. The scheme is propounded in our advertising columns.

CROWNED TUBES.—The new caps in the form of a crown which Messrs. Marshall (Limited), of 27 Red Lion Square, W.C., have introduced as an appropriate Coronation novelty, enhance the appearance, and probably give the contents a more regal flavour.

MESSRS. PARKE, DAVIS & Co., 111 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., will close their offices, warehouses, and laboratories from Thursday evening, March 27, until Tuesday morning, April 1; but a few members of the staff will be in attendance each day to deal with urgent orders for serum, &c.

THE CHESEBROUGH MANUFACTURING COMPANY, Holborn Viaduct, E.C., call attention in our advertisement-pages this week to the decision by the Court of Appeal which sustains the company's contention that "Vaseline" is their property, and that the word may only be lawfully applied to vaseline manufactured by them. Those who put up their own vaseline should be careful on this point, otherwise it may get them into trouble.

"SUCCESSFUL ADVERTISING" is the title of a 2*s.* book of 775 pages, in which Smith's Advertising Agency, 100 Fleet Street, E.C., tell the secret of success. About a third of the book is devoted to articles on the reason why people should advertise; those on "A Voyage to Success" and "Human

Nature" are cleverly written. The latter part of the book is occupied with particulars about the various newspapers and magazines published in the United Kingdom.

THE "PHOTOGRAPHIC DEALERS' ANNUAL" has just been published by Messrs. Marshall & Brookes, Harp Alley, Farringdon Street, E.C. It contains a good deal of photographic information, including an interesting article on "Modern Photographic Lenses," by Dr. C. V. Drysdale, and "Workshop Hints," by Mr. A. W. Marshall. An article on the outlook of the British photographic trade for 1902 is distinctly optimistic. The Annual is published at 1*s.*

MESSRS. BRATBY & HINCHLIFFE (LIMITED), of Ancoats, Manchester, are now making their "Orient" soda-water machine in three sizes, to meet all requirements. This machine is specially adapted for use with liquefied CO₂, and being fitted with turnover and syphon-fillers, thereby taking up very little space, it is most suitable for chemists. The cylinder is of strong hammered copper, tinned inside, and the pump is of test-quality gunmetal. The filling-machines can be supplied with or without syrup-pumps.

TREATMENT OF CONSUMPTION.—A new edition has been published of Mr. Congreve's book on consumption, revised by Mr. J. A. Brown. The first edition was published in 1881, and it is stated that 630,000 copies of the work were issued up to the end of 1901. Apart from the fact that the book is intended to tell of the virtues of the "Balsamic Elixir," there are much sound common sense and interesting particulars on the treatment of consumption contained in its pages. The book is obtainable from Crompton Lodge, Rye Lane, Peckham, S.E., and is priced at 6*d.*

CONCENTRATED SENSATIONS.

THE chemist is becoming more of a favourite with the devotees of ephemeral journalism, and the latest interpreter is the genial *Punch*. A New York journal having stated that a drug has been discovered "which induces a feeling of genial benevolence to all men, while having no permanent ill-effects," "Mr. Punch" steps into the nearest chemist's shop, and inquires whether he can be supplied with an ounce or two of "genial benevolence." The polite young man behind the counter said he could, and took the opportunity at the same time to recommend his celebrated Blue Pills for depression. The name conjured up unpleasant remembrances with the blue pill of the elder days, but the chemist hastened to disabuse his customer's mind:—

"Oh, but this is quite a new invention," urged the druggist. "It has nothing in common with the old-fashioned medicine which you name. It is, in fact, a pill for curing a fit of the blues. And it's most effectual. Only this morning a customer called in a state of morbid despair. He was only hesitating, he assured us, between the Thames and prussic acid. We administered a couple of blue pills, and a minute later he was turning somersaults in the street from sheer light-heartedness! Then, again, you might like a bottle of our Decisive Tonic? It's a sure remedy for indecision. People who can't make up their minds swallow a few doses, and their disease is cured. We are expecting large orders for this medicine from members of the Liberal Party. Here you have our Repletion Globules! One of these produces the precise sensations commonly experienced after an Aldermanic dinner. They were freely asked for about Christmas time. Yes, the next bottle contains our Imperial Mixture. The patient who takes it at once feels extraordinarily brave and breezy, and his next purchases, as a rule, are a Union Jack and a volume of Chamberlain's speeches."

For literary gentlemen the chemist recommended his Absolute-misery Tablets, as used by the best known and most prosperous and optimistic writers to reduce the proper environment for dismal Christmas tales. And he continues:—

"Our Remorse Lotion also is much liked. Rubbed in twice a day, it stimulates the most sluggish conscience. Customers use it a great deal in the first week or so of each year, and indigent young married couples give bottles of it to their rich relations. Those bottles? Oh, they contain a beautiful preparation—our Anti-jocular Cure. A sense of humour often is found fatal to success in public life, so —"

This was more than "Mr. Punch" could stand. His reputation for countless years, we assume, would suffer by the sale of this opposition article, so he smashed a whole row of anti-jocular bottles and withdrew.

Correspondence

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Monthly Accounts.

SIR,—The correspondent writing in your last issue under the *nom de plume* of "An Ordinary Retailer" gives "a hint to wholesale houses" in reference to "the dilatory and unsystematic manner in which their monthly statements of account are rendered." It is to be regretted that there are wholesale houses who do not render their accounts until the middle of the month notwithstanding such accounts may be due for payment by the 15th inst., thereby causing their friends needless and unwarrantable annoyance. I trust, however, wholesale druggists are excluded. I would invite the writer to consider the system under which the despatch of accounts in a large wholesale house has to be carried on. The number of orders annually received may not be less than sixty thousand (in some houses considerably more), and these require a large amount of ledger-posting. As orders arrive up to the last day of the month, ledger-keepers find it impracticable to complete their posting by the last night of the month inasmuch as orders are not completed for one or two days subsequent to their receipt; so it is not possible to close the posting, say, until the second or third day of the month. The usual practice for a house carrying on a business of the size I have indicated is to divide the alphabetically arranged ledgers somewhat thus: A to F, G to O, and P to Z, a clerk being in charge of each ledger. Your correspondent will perceive that with such an arrangement customer "A" is likely to get his account much sooner than customer "F," who will be at the end of same ledger and also "G" earlier than "O" in the second ledger, and "P" prior to "Z." It is not improbable that the ledger-keeper who is fully alive to the desirability of avoiding censure selects a certain few of the firm's friends (who, he imagines, will complain if the account be not received early in the month) for priority in despatch of account. I do not defend an irregular rendering of accounts, for I hold that in all cases statements should be in the hands of the pharmacist, who has been considerate enough to order the goods from a particular house, at least seven days prior to the date named for payment—say, about the 8th of the month. May I hope with this explanation before your writer he will not condemn wholesale drug-houses, at any rate, as being "dilatory and unsystematic," but on the contrary desirous of acting in a businesslike manner in rendering their accounts so that a reasonable time may be given for the checking of same?

Southwark, London, March 25. CHARLES UMNEY.

Dewsbury and the Federation.

SIR,—In your issue of to-day you publish a letter from Mr. Merson in which occurs the sentence: "I pass with contempt the insinuation made as to the disposal of subscriptions paid to me on account of the Federation." Let me assure Mr. Merson that no such insinuation exists except in his own mind. My fellow-members are honorable, straightforward, and kind-hearted, and had the slightest shadow of such a malicious invention been apparent, they would have indignantly opposed my resolution. We have no use for innuendo and insinuation at Dewsbury. Those who belong to associations outside pharmacy would have another terror added to life if shallow sarcasms regarding subscriptions were construed into contemptible attacks on the integrity of officials. Such remarks are usually taken, as they are given, in a broad and general sense, and I credited even the Federation with a wider horizon. I am sorry it has been possible for Mr. Merson to pen such a paragraph, as it is clearly the offspring of imagination and personal pique, and is so unwarranted, so uncalled-for, that it puts the rest of his

letter out of court. The concurrence of my fellow-members was sufficient proof that there was no personal reflection on Mr. Merson, and I am sure I deeply regret that any words of mine should unintentionally have given him cause to think so.

I am, yours faithfully,

Batley, March 22.

R BROADHEAD.

Concerning Cannabis Indica.

SIR,—The activity of the Edinburgh Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society fills one with amazement, but we on this side of the water are sometimes tempted to silence the shame which we feel at being barren, though with equal opportunities, by detecting a certain tendency to "paper-making." Now, there is no more urgent need in pharmacy than to produce an active or uniform preparation of cannabis indica—a drug whose properties are *sui generis*, and for which there is no known substitute. Yet the able writer on the subject—unless your report does him injustice—did not make the slightest reference to the work which had been done by Marshall and Dixon at Aberdeen, or under Bradbury at Cambridge, to elucidate some active principle in the drug. These exponents seem to show that the extract, prepared according to the B.P., varies enormously in activity, and whilst this is so it is idle to expect that the tincture shall be more uniform. As Mr. Merson suggests, the foreign is apparently of more definite composition, and certainly I have found that the American extracts—largely resinoid, are far more potent than the British. This fact only leads to still more confusion, because I have seen acute poisoning to occur when the patient, for whom the physician had calculated on a B.P. extract, was supplied with about 1 gr. of an American preparation. At the same time, I regard Mr. Merson's suggestion to make an extract with absolute alcohol, and dissolve in *spt. ætheris* for the tincture, an admirable one.

Yours truly,

Dublin, March 20.

J. O. MCWALTER.

Cannabis Indica and Digitalis.

SIR,—My experience of Indian hemp is that medical men find its preparations extremely variable, and several have made up their minds to cease prescribing the drug. I therefore agree with Mr. Merson in saying that "cannabis indica is notoriously an unsatisfactory therapeutic agent," but I am not prepared to follow him when he says "it is generally conceded that its therapeutic value lies in the resin or resins present." If it be the case that the resin is the active principle, how is the fact to be accounted for that the drug deteriorates with age? In a paper on "Extract of Indian Hemp" (*Year-book of Pharmacy*, 1894, page 489) Mr. David Hooper says, "Ganjas always lose their strength when kept for some time, and many dealers in India obtain new supplies annually, and always consider the drug worthless after being kept three years." He also states that "an alkaloid is present in nearly all the fresh samples of ganja: it occurs only in traces in older specimens, and is altogether absent in extracts that have been kept for some years." Whether we have evidence for the belief that the active principle is a volatile alkaloid such as that isolated by Siebold and Bradbury (*Year-book of Pharmacy*, 1881, page 453) is doubtful, but there seem to be good reasons for coming to the conclusion that the active principle is volatile in character. If that be conceded, it appears to follow that the presence of a normal percentage of resin is by no means a guarantee of therapeutic activity. It would be interesting to know whether Mr. Merson has determined if his resins or dry extracts are in any case physiologically active. I ask this question, because it is a fact that while the dose of a reliable extract of Indian hemp is $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. to 1 gr., it requires, in order to produce the typical effect, as much as 8 gr. to 16 gr. of so-called cannabine tannate, $1\frac{1}{2}$ gr. to 4 gr. of so-called cannabine alkaloid, and 1 gr. to 2 gr. of cannabinon. It would be interesting to know how the resins compare in this respect. According to Hooper, "the resin contains the active principle," and I venture to think that he would not have used this phraseology if he intended us to believe that the resin is the active principle. The pharmacology and chemistry of cannabis indica are involved in so much obscurity that gravimetric tests are worthless, and absolute reliance can only be placed on a physiological test. A very large proportion—probably one-half—of the cannabis placed on the market is, when tested in this way, found to

be physiologically inert, or so weak as to be worthless, and yet this cannabis will doubtless show a normal percentage of resin. What becomes of all this inert drug? If it is manufactured into extract, it is easy to understand why so little reliance can be placed on the preparations of Indian hemp.

Dr. Gordon Sharp's opinion as to the stability of tincture of digitalis is, in my experience, quite correct. If the tincture is made from sound leaves, there is no reason why, with ordinary care, it should deteriorate. Dr. Gordon Sharp admits, apparently, that "our present knowledge of the chemistry and pharmacology of digitalis" is not satisfactory, but it is not clear why on that account he does not "attach any great importance to physiological tests." One would have expected a conclusion the very opposite, especially when we know that the physiological action of digitalis is more marked than that of almost any other drug. If we find that one parcel of leaves gives the characteristic physiological effect, and another fails to do so, there can be only one explanation of the facts. Dr. Sharp's proposed tests are ingenious, but inconclusive, since neither of them proves either the presence or the absence of digitoxin, while anyone having experience of Fehling estimations would hesitate before committing himself to a quantitative figure by means of the second test. Besides, in view of the fact that samples of crystallised digitalin, of the same brand, have been found to vary in physiological activity as one is to four, there is not much comfort in knowing that an indefinite quantity of some glucosidal body is present in any given sample of leaves.

Glasgow, March 22.

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS MABEN.

Estimation of Fat in Milk.

SIR,—An obvious error occurs in the report of my "Note on the Estimation of Fat in Milk" in your issue of to-day—an error for which I am responsible, and which I shall be glad if you will correct. For "100 c.c. of milk" read "10 c.c."

Birmingham, March 15.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. E. PERRY.

More Spade-work.

"I am informed," writes a far from ordinary correspondent, "that a distinguished member of the Upper House has in contemplation the introduction of a measure to make vaccination with Imperial matter compulsory. He has been taking lessons in the art of inoculation, and I send you a sketch which a Lobby artist made on the spot. I send you



the information for what it is worth." This must not be taken as a precedent. If all our subscribers were to foist their political views upon us in this taking fashion, we should be in perpetual hot water.

Volunteer Compounders.

SIR,—In reference to "Late Compounder R.A.M.C.'s" letter in your issue of March 15, permit me to say that if he

had taken my advice as published in *C. & D.* at beginning of the present war he would not have been treated as he has been. I detailed my experience of the War Office and how I volunteered as compounder on condition that I obtained a commission, as I considered that I was as much entitled to the latter as the average doctor; but as the War Office obtained their compounders—good, bad and middling—in the same way as they obtained their private soldiers—by enlistment—I do not think, under the circumstances, "Late Compounder R.A.M.C." has any right at all to murmur at the treatment he received. Patriotism is all very well in its way, but what is sauce for the medical and surgical goose should also be sauce for the pharmaceutical gander; and if the War Office again want qualified men to do their compounding, I hope "Late Compounder R.A.M.C." and other patriotic enthusiasts will give them a wide berth.

Yours truly,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST. (179/50.)

English Assistants in Paris.

SIR,—The disappointing experiences of several of my comrades who are English assistants in the so-called English pharmacies in Paris has induced me to send you a few facts that should interest those who are anxious to obtain positions in that city. Forewarned is forearmed, and it is well to know the real state of affairs before throwing up a good situation in England for one that seems equally good, or even better, in Paris, with the object of learning French pharmacy and the language. The latter objects are frequently frustrated, as in the English pharmacies nothing but English is spoken and there is little foreign pharmacy practised. First, as to salary: one commences usually with 250f. a month outdoors (a little under 10*l.*); but, as the cost of living is considerably higher than in England, it is hardly equal to 8*l.* Living at Cannes and Nice is less expensive. Again, living in hotels and dining at restaurants have none of the comforts to be found in English "digs," and as *déjeuner* (or lunch) cannot be had in the restaurants until 11 A.M., or can only be had before that by paying double or treble the price in the smaller shops (such as the creameries), it is necessary to arrange that the meal-time allowed does not come before that hour. It must also be remembered that (especially in French pharmacies where "English" business is carried on as a side-line) Sunday is counted a working-day, so that "a half-day once a week" may mean Sunday afternoon. Assistants should also make arrangements for holidays, otherwise none are provided (except at assistant's expense), as well as for such public holidays as Easter, Christmas, or the corresponding ones in France (*Pâques, Mi-Carême, Mardi-Gras*, &c.). Arrangements should likewise be made to obviate the assistant doing more than his own share of night-duty without recompense, for it often happens that a fellow-assistant falling ill, or a new assistant not knowing the language or the shop, the one who is left finds himself saddled with all the night-work with no extra remuneration; and, as the sleeping-accommodation is abominable in nearly all French pharmacies, one gets very little rest. I hope these hints will prove of service to those looking for situations as assistants in Paris.

Yours truly,

QUITE ENOUGH. (183/8.)

Dispensing Notes.

Excipient Wanted.

Ferri arseniatis	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{12}$
Alumini chloridi	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{12}$
Ext. nucis vom.	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{8}$

Ft. pil. j. Mitte xxxvj.

A medical practitioner submits the above to our readers for solution. The pills deliquesce.

Student (183/68) also sends the following:—

Ext. belladonnæ	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Alumini chloridi	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{16}$

Ft. pil.

We have suggested kaolin-ointment as an excipient, but would like dispensers to experiment. Aluminium chloride is being used with success in the treatment of locomotor ataxy, and more will yet be heard of it.

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists Diary"—Trade Law or Pharmacy Law Sections.

179/45. *Eau de Cologne*.—You may call a medicine blood-beans, if you like, and you will infringe no one's rights so long as you do not produce a colourable imitation of his goods.

179/28. *H. H.*—Your informant is wrong. The headache-powder, being an entire drug, is not liable to medicine-stamp duty. Reference to our DIARY settles such questions as this.

174/2. *Forma*.—Of your labels the following are liable:—Teething-powders, soothing-cordial, indigestion-mixture, quinine-and-pennyroyal mixture, cough-balsam, purifying mixture, tonic elixir (on account of the handbill, but submit the label to Somerset House). The handbill in which your celebrated mixtures are advertised makes them all liable.

174/51. *Venturesome*.—Eight ounces of rectified spirit may be sold at a time for medical or scientific purposes.

180/64. *Fix*.—As a Minor man you may use the letters L.P.S. after your name.

180/13. *Infans*.—Your cooling and fever powder is liable to duty because it is "guaranteed not only the best but the safest powder in the world." The wording on the wrapper makes the soothing-syrup and headache and neuralgia preparations also liable.

181/2. *North*.—(1) The non-liable wording on a label may be exactly repeated as a handbill or poster without involving liability. (2) The quinine-and-iron tonic label is one which has been considered to be not liable.

180/48. *Optics*.—(1) If your headache and neuralgia powders are a mixture, and not an entire drug, the words "if necessary," in the phrase "repeat in twenty minutes if necessary," make them liable to duty. (2) For the manufacture of orange-wine a "maker of sweets" licence is necessary. It costs 5l. 5s. a year. Refer to your local Inland Revenue supervisor for particulars as to application.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

156/4. *A. R.*—Clear Ginger-beer is made by the use of a soluble essence. If ginger-beer is brewed it is always more or less cloudy.

166/11. *Texlo*.—(1) Almond paste for the hands:—

Blanched almonds	...	...	1½ lb.
Rice-powder	...	...	4 oz.
Orris-powder	...	...	6 oz.
Spermaceti	...	...	½ oz.
Oil of almonds	...	...	2 oz.
White soft soap	...	...	2 oz.
Essential oil of almonds	...	...	1 dr.
Oil of bergamot	...	...	3 dr.
Oil of rose	...	...	½ dr.

Beat the almonds to a paste, add the spermaceti, oil of almonds and soap previously melted, then the powders and perfumes. The mass to be beaten till quite smooth, and the consistency adjusted by adding more powders or glycerin.

(2) Ammonium chloride alone is not much use as an addition to a freckle-lotion. (3) The address of Kelly's Directories (Limited) is 182 High Holborn, W.C. (4) Try the Kitson Lighting Syndicate, 1 Victoria Embankment, E.C., for gas-line-lighting system.

156/13. *W. A. S.*—Wine of Cod-liver Oil is prepared by dissolving "morrhual" 6 oz. in 1 gallon of sherry. Chapoteaut, who discovered this so-called active principle of cod-liver oil, prepared it by treating the oil at a low tem-

perature with 5 per-cent. aqueous solution of sodium carbonate, then shaking it with alcohol (90-per-cent.). The alcoholic solution, separated and evaporated, leaves "morrhual," of which 0.02 grammes is equal to 5 grammes of oil. (See also *C. & D.*, December 9, 1899, page 962.)

133/4. *Delob*.—Spirit of Ammonia when last official in the P.L., 1835, was made by distilling a mixture of ammonium chloride, potassium carbonate, and spirit, and was an alcoholic solution of ammonia. The term is now applied to liq. ammoniæ B.P.

159/19. *Rosa*.—Horse-powders.—These do not contain arsenic, but are composed as follows:—

Ferri sulph. exsic.	...	...	j.
Pulv. nucis vom.	...	...	gr. xxx.
Pulv. glycyrrhizæ	...	...	ʒiij.

Ft. pulv. pro dosis.

172/21. *Graph*.—The only way of Mending Indianrubber Water-bottles is to patch with a piece of macintosh sheeting using rubber solution as the cement. The place where the patch is to be applied must be first cleaned with fine sand-paper after the manner of mending cycle-tyres.

172/52. *E. R. B.* finds there is a demand from lady customers who have used hydrogen peroxide for some years for something to restore the "rich auburn colour" when grey hairs begin to appear. Potassium permanganate does not answer very well. Perhaps some of our readers with experience in such matters can suggest something better.

163/42. *W. P.*—Nursing as a Profession for Girls.—The information you require is given in "The Nursing Profession: How and where to Train," 2s. (Scientific Press).

170/63. *J. M. N.*—To Bleach Feathers yellowed by age immerse them in a warm solution of peroxide of hydrogen.

159/5. *W. B. H.*—Black-line Ferric Process.—The sepia-tones of the paper you prepare could probably be changed to black by a bath of gallic acid. It may require a small proportion of ferric chloride to be used in the sensitising solution. Try a few experiments on these lines.

162/12. *Gas burner*.—(1) As the burner used with an incandescent mantle is on the Bunsen principle, it burns less gas than the ordinary burner. It is necessary, however, to frequently renew the mantles if the maximum light is desired from a Welsbach mantle. (2) Mica lamp-chimneys are best cleaned with spirit.

163/69. *J. B. C.*—Books on Bacteriology.—Crookshank (E. M.) 'Text-book of Bacteriology,' 2ls., and Curtis's "Essentials of Bacteriology." Read also the "Bacteriological Notes," by Dr. W. H. Martindale, in the *C. & D.*, March 30, 1901, page 511.

166/17. *Porcelain* (Shanghai).—There is no book published on the manufacture of malt-extract.

180/73. *D. & A.* (Milan).—The medicinal properties of *Hepatica triloba* (liverwort) are demulcent and astringent. It was formerly thought to possess diuretic properties, but is now valued on account of its mild mucilaginous astringency. The infusion is taken *ad libitum* in fevers, bleeding from the lungs, and coughs.

164/35. *R. S. G.*—(1) Pile ointment for collapsible-tube packing:—

Ext. hamamelidis liq.	...	...	ʒj.
Liq. hamamelidis	...	...	ʒj.
Adipis læ	...	...	ʒvj.
Ung. camphoræ	...	...	ʒiij.

M.

(2) The exact process of using liq. antim. chlor. for blueing gun-barrels is a trade secret.

178/13. *F. C.*—Powders to Make a Lotion for horses' swollen legs.—The three packets of powder which are added to 1 gal. of water to form a lotion consist of (1) alum, (2) lead acetate, (3) zinc sulphate. In each case the chemical is mixed with colouring-matter which responded to the tests for terra rosa.

174/8. *Tabules*.—The hire of a bed-pan for a month would be from 1s. to 2s. 6d. depending on the value of the article. Urinals, being less expensive, would be charged a minimum of 1s.

164/10. *Specific*.—Neuralgia mixture like your specimen:—

Tr. gelsemii	3j.
Exalgin.	gr. vj.
Tr. per-ionis	3ij.
Pulv. tragac. co.	gr. x.
Syrupi	3iss.
Ol. sassafras	miv.
Alcohol.	3ij.
Aq. ad	3ij.

Dose for an adult: One tablespoonful.

173/51. *W. & R. H.*—Your inquiry for recipes for "pastes and colours" is too laconic. Do you refer to the manufacture of lozenges or paints?

177/35. *V. C.*—The "aniline crystals" used for colouring white flowers are ordinary aniline dyes.

179/10. *Inquirer*.—There is no drug-mill obtainable at the price you mention. Probably a coffee-mill would meet your wants.

177/38. *W.*—Veterinary Embrocation.—This we find from analysis to be composed substantially as follows:—

Ol. terebinth....	...	...	3j.
Liq. ammoniac	...	...	3ij.
Ol. origani	...	...	3ij.
Gum. guaiaci	...	...	3ij.
Alcohol.	...	...	3ij.

M.

The play of colours is due to the action of the ammonia on the guaiacum.

177/45. *Diabetic*.—The "food" for making diabetic bread is gluten prepared from wheat flour. There are two ways of making it—one, the "sour" process, in which the starch granules are freed by a process of fermentation, and another which consists in treating the material with dilute solution of caustic soda—but these cannot be profitably carried out on a small scale.

173/18. *London*.—Condition-powder for Horses as your sample:—

Pulv. potass. nitr.	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. resin.	...	...	3j.
Pulv. santali rub.	...	...	3j.
Pulv. fenugraec.	...	...	3j.
Pulv. glycyrrh.	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. lini placent.	...	...	3v.

The dose of the mixed powder is a tablespoonful.

176/54. *F. S. H.*—You must give some information about the "lotion" before we undertake to examine it.

173/62. *A. M.*—Boot-polishing Paste.—The basis of this is ceresine 2 parts, turpentine 3 to 4 parts. The black colour is due to ivory-black and aniline black.

165/38 (*Velox*) and 176/55 (*Polish*).—Metal-polishing Paste. The difficulty in matching your samples of metal-polish is to get the same basis, which is a natural product. The following represents the general composition of such polishes:—

Soft paraffin	3ij.
Crude oleic acid	3iv.
Kieselguhr or precipitated silica	3viij.

Mix.

A mixture of paraffin-wax and heavy paraffin oil is sometimes employed in place of the first ingredient.

180/35. *Druncree*.—We do not know of any process of rendering paraffin-wax transparent.

177/69. *Mac*.—Spermaceti ointment is not a good basis for hydrarg. oxid. flav., as the latter is more easily reduced in presence of fatty acids than when mixed with petroleum jelly. If the oxide is triturated well with liquid paraffin instead of olive oil, it keeps the colour better.

173/58 *Rusticus*.—The electro-magnetic machine needs recharging.

180/53. *Senna*.—Ess. Sennæ Dule.—See *C. & D.* March 9, 1901, page 422.

179/2. *Viola*.—If a man holding a Minor certificate wants to become an engineer, he should start by working for about two years in a mechanic's shop, incidentally taking out a few evening-classes at some technical college. Electrical engineering is overdone at present, and is likely to be for some time.

168/45 *Horehound*.—(1) The dose of balsam of horehound ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 445) for children of 14 is 20 to 30 drops. It is not a suitable mixture for infants. (2) Cheap Harness oil is made by mixing 2 oz. of bone-black with a pint of linseed oil. (3) Drop-black is a variety of lamp-black. (4) The Dropsy-pills contain colocynth and ihubarb, but it is not possible to accurately analyse them.

173/24. *H. W. S.*—Some applications used for "nourishing and enlarging the female breast" are made with a basis of lanolin, others glycerin. The formula for toilet-lanolin given in the *C. & D.*, February 22, page 320, represents the kind of thing to compound, but needs selling under a fancy name.

92/30. *J. A. R. B.*—The composition of Higgins's mountant was explained in the *C. & D.*, February 23, page 338, where abstracts of the several patents under which it is prepared were given. THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1902 contains two representative formulæ for mountants.

174/67. *Plumbago*.—Stove-polish.—Turpentine is used for mixing with blacklead to make a stove-polish, but you will find three modern formulæ in the *C. & D.*, January 11, page 68.

167/8. *S. L. R.*—Disinfecting-fluid to turn milky with water.—The following is a better formula than the one given January 18, page 95, the soap formed enabling more cresols and phenols to be worked in: Boil together 1 gal. crude carbolic acid (or coal-tar oil if cheapness is required), palm oil 1 lb., soda-ash 3 lbs., and water 2 gals., for two hours, replacing water so as to maintain a volume of at least 2½ gals. Set aside for several days, and decant the clear brown syrupy fluid. Further hints on this subject may be gleaned from "Pharmaceutical Formulas," pages 347 to 349.

168/23. *Bones*.—Instruction in Radiography is given by the suppliers of the apparatus (H. W. Cox, Limited, Reynolds & Branson, Watson & Sons, and A. W. Isenthal). Purchasers of apparatus are instructed free.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

186/71. Maker of "Herno" brand of trusses.

185/63. Makers or agents for Lyroll's sheep-drench.

ELLEN KENWARD, of Much Birch, Ross, Herefordshire, has been committed for trial on a charge of attempting to poison her daughter with phosphorus.

SEVERAL M.P.s have brought in a Bill to make provision for an additional Bank Holiday, to be called "Empire Day," in commemoration of her late Majesty's reign. The Saturday preceding the first Monday in August has been chosen as an appropriate day, so as to give a clear holiday between the Friday preceding the first Monday in August and the following Tuesday. Mr. D. A. Thomas has, however, "blocked" the Bill by a sarcastic motion to the effect that, recognising the great and growing disposition of large masses of the people for larger opportunities of leisure in order to mark their sense of the magnitude of the British Empire, and the impossibility of their doing so adequately upon a single day, the House should decline to deal with the important question of further public holidays in a piecemeal fashion.

At the Counter.

TWO BLACKHEATH RECIPES, sent to us by Mr. Wm. S. Galleylore, are too good to spoil by comment:—

1*l.* opperdoldock
1*l.* oile riggani
1*l.* kamferated oile
1*l.* armoniam

And will you please to put a corke becuse mother says we mussent drink it.

1*l.* of Oyan
1*l.* of Finigy
1*l.* of Ground Aniseed
1*l.* of Block Brimston

Pleas Put seperate.

VARIETIES OF IPECACUANHA.—The following are some of the recent variations received in the popular orthography of this useful domestic remedy:—"lipquanee," "ekyou-pekkyouana," "impecunia," "epicaquany."

MISCELLANEOUS "POSERS."—The following require a little thinking out: "Phinegig," "tincty of aradin," "oile of gumerter," "pogroc, sup of popies, on delive for caught," "rush and tallows," "one penth of buf colen to pot in whitin to do a woll," "carstra," "cascric," and "amalgated potash."

VARIATIONS, MORE OR LESS FAMILIAR.—These are ingenious, but easily recognisable: "Canverated," otherwise "cafateomerite oil"; "okey-pokey," likewise "tripicia"; "bitter Holloways," also "bitteralerwase"; "spipity," or "sipity"; "barx," "queenon tonicked," "sweet manrer." Our old flame Miss "Sulpher McNeisia" is still to the fore, while "consecrated decoction of aloes" has been inquired for.

FROM MANXLAND.—A subscriber in the Isle of Man sends some curiosities. For instances: "Vigner," "sulvita," "coruk eulher," "kianpods," and "cremata." The following is interesting as showing the abnormal ages reached in the island: "4 worm Powders 1 20 years 1 for 30 2 for 40."

FROM TYNESIDE.—This locality is usually productive of something piquant in counter requests. Two varieties of gualacum wanted were "gu acum" and "guckrum," respectively. A Hull man desired "chronic æther," while a Newcastle sufferer wanted "tinker ben oil, mair oil, actifort"—a mysterious mixture, whose composition we confess to being unable to solve. Another North Countryman wanted "ointment for ringworm for a worm"—evidently a case of misplacement of words.

THE following request, sent us by a Whitby Bay pharmacist, illustrates a Northumbrian's idea of high-class pharmacy:—

Aw want sum oh them things for ha hawfu heedake. Aw de noken what ye call them exactly but its Fanny sumthink, just like twa soup plates klagged together, ah get em in the Toon 1*d.* each.

TWO PUZZLERS.—The following are beyond us: "Please give him something to cure eirgelia in the head." Unless "eirgelia" is neuralgia in a totally new disguise, we give it up. The second is, "1 bottle fanen Arr spls drops." The recipient of this order sent Fenning's rheumatic and erysipelas drops, and doubtless he was right.

AGED Scotchman to English apprentice newly arrived: "I say, my mon, can you gie me onything for the pap o' ma hass? Its doon; and when ye're aboot it a'll tak' a penny's-worth o' caddis, and a boax of hog's laud." Collapse of E. A., who upon his recovery after a long convalescence learns that "pap o' the hass" = uvula, "caddis" = lint, and "hog's laud" or "swine's-seam" = lard.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—The lecture arrangements after Easter will include three lectures on "The Oxygen Group of Elements," by Professor Dewar. The Friday evening meetings will commence on April 11, when Professor Dewar will deliver a discourse on "Problems of the Atmosphere." Succeeding Friday evening discourses will be delivered by Sir John H. A. Macdonald, Dr. J. Mackenzie Davidson, Sir Robert Ball, Sir Benjamin Baker, Professor A. E. Tutton, and others.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: March 26.

BUSINESS has slackened down this week in view of the holidays, and there is little new to report. The chief alteration has been a substantial advance in glycerin, and should there be a speedy termination of the war in South Africa a further advance may be looked for. Cod-liver oil continues its upward movement, but no appreciable amount of buying has yet taken place. Quinine has ruled quiet, and no activity is expected until after the cinchona-sales at Amsterdam next week, when only a moderate quantity will be offered. Most of the cheap lots of Cartagena ipecacuanha have been bought for United States account, and of cannabis indica a fair quantity has changed hands at unaltered rates. Gamboge has advanced as expected, and senega is very firm. In chemicals, sulphate of ammonia has advanced owing to short supplies. Sulphate of copper is lower, and both arsenic and borax are on the easy side. The following are the principal alterations of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammonia sulphate Condurango Glycerin Oil, cod-liver Pepper (black)	Cloves (Zan)	Oil, castor	Copper sulphate Pepper (white)

Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from March 20 to 25, inclusive:—Aniseed (Russ.), 31; areca, 10; argol (@ Venice), 204; balsam copaiba (@ Maranham), 11; benzoin (@ Singapore) 146, (@ Penang) 36; birdlime (Jap.) 73, and 44 *in tr.*; buchu, 52; cantharides (Russ.), 10; castor oil (@ Italy), 15; chillies (Jap.), 400; citrate of lime (@ Messina) 473, (@ Palermo) 21; citric acid (@ Messina), 14; cod-liver oil (@ Tromsø) 50, (@ Aalesund) 110, (@ Bergen) 325, (@ Hamburg) 10; dragon's-blood, 14; drugs (@ Monte Video) 19, (@ Rio) 35; essential oils (@ Messina) 545, (@ Palermo) 40; ginger (Jap.) 334, (China) 1,656; gum, unenumerated (@ Mollendo), 93; gum arabic (@ Alexandretta), 30 cs.; insect-powder (@ Trieste), 50; lemon-juice (@ Messina), 20; nux vomica (@ Cochín) 800, (@ Calicut) 800, (@ Tellicherry) 200, (@ Mangalore) 933; opium (@ Colombo) 24, (@ Hong Kong) 20, (@ Constantinople) 8; poppyheads (@ Antwerp), 4; potashes (@ Portland), 26; quicksilver (Ital.), 500; sandalwood (E.I.), 800 packages; senna (@ Suez), 25 *in tr.*; shellac, 933; squills (@ Messina), 13; sulphur (@ Catania) 1,100 bags and 66 barrels 500 tons, (@ Girgenti) 400 tons; tartar (@ Rotterdam) 97, (@ Spain) 10; tartar emetic (@ Hamburg), 10; wax, bees' (E.I.) 23, (Mor.) 31; wax, ceresin (@ Amsterdam) 30, (@ Stettin) 35; wax, Japanese, 20; wine-lees (@ Palermo) 1,161 bags, (@ Messina) 125, (@ Catania) 214.

ALOES.—A few cases of the Socotrine offered last week have since been sold at 75s. per cwt. for good pale but soft hepatic in tin-lined cases.

BENZON.—The arrivals this week include 66 cases and 80 cases from Singapore per ss. *Stentor* and *Shanghai* respectively, and 26 cases from Penang.

CARDAMOMS—The exports from Ceylon from January 1 to March 3 were:—

	1902	1901	1900	1899
Lbs. ...	121,458	74,656	106,348	95,827

CINCHONA—The auction to be held on April 3 will consist of 6,401 bales and 379 cases, weighing 620,158 kilos., and containing 30,294 kilos. quinine sulphate, or an average for the manufacturing bark of 5.39 per cent., against 5.27 per cent. for February, and an average of 5.45 per cent. for the ten auctions of 1901.

COCAINE is very firm but unchanged at makers' quotation of 17s. 9d. per cwt. The stocks of crude at Hamburg and the factories continue to be well held, and makers have paid full to dearer prices.

CONDURANGO is dearer at 75s. per cwt., c.i.f.

COPPER SULPHATE is lower, at from 18l. 15s. to 19s. 10s. per ton, spot, according to brand.

DRAGON'S BLOOD—The ss. *Stentor* and *Shanghai* have brought 9 and 5 cases respectively from Singapore.

GALLS—Chinese are quiet with sellers at 5l. per cwt. near at hand, and 50s., c.i.f., April-May shipment. For Persian, 62s. 6d. spot is asked.

GAMBOGE—For good pipe 16l. 10s. per cwt. is now quoted.

GLYCERIN—Crude glycerin having advanced several times of late, the refined article has also advanced, and in $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton lots is now quoted 68s. per cwt. up to 72s. for double-distilled English, sp. gr. 1.260. A further advance is expected owing to the trend of events in South Africa.

LIME JUICE—The paragraph which appeared in our market report last week in reference to a parcel of lime-juice described as "unracked Montserrat," ought to have read "two casks, ex Montserrat."

MENTHOL—Quiet. A little is offered at 13s. per lb., but for Kobayashi in case lots 13s. 6d., spot, is asked.

OIL, CASTOR—Small sales of Calcutta seconds have been made at 3d. per lb. Medicinal French is easier, being quoted 31s. 10s. per ton, and first-pressings 29l. in barrels, ex wharf. Belgian is also easier at 26l. for first-pressings, ex wharf.

OIL, COD-LIVER—Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 22 that the reports from the fishing districts this week are very unsatisfactory, partly owing to bad weather and to the decreasing quantities of cod on the fishing-grounds. As usual, the livers are growing poorer as the season advances. The market is very firm, and best non-congealing medicinal oil cannot be obtained under 90s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, and in some instances holders are asking higher than this. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 2,189 barrels, against 2,669 barrels at the same time last year. In London prices have advanced in sympathy with Norway, but as yet there has been no general buying. From 96s. to 105s. per barrel, c.i.f., is quoted, according to brand.

OIL, LAVENDER—Holders are now asking higher rates for best Mitcham oil, and 26s. per lb. is the price of one dealer.

OIL, LEMONGRASS—Business has been done privately at 6d. per oz., spot.

OIL, OLIVE—The olive-crop of Andalusia is unusually good this year (says American Consul Ridgely, of Malaga), and the output of oil in consequence will reach large figures, about 3,500,000 arrobas (87,500,000 lbs.), or some 37 per cent. more than in 1899, 1900, or 1901. The opening prices for Andalusian oil this season were from 8 to 9 pesetas per arroba of 11½ kilos. (25.3 lbs.); but, owing to the very short crop in Italy, these prices have slightly increased, being today from 10 to 10½ pesetas per arroba. These prices are 30 per cent. under those of last year, when there was a very small crop. Italian oil exporters, in order to supply their customers in the United States and elsewhere, have found it necessary to come to this market for oil, and some of them are even exporting direct from here to New York. Malaga is sending her olive oil this year principally to Italy, Russia, France, Germany, England, Holland, Norway and Sweden, and the United States. The oil now being pressed is of an excellent quality, both in colour and taste, and much superior to the product of the three previous years.

OIL, SPEARMINT—HGH brand is quoted 7s. 6d. per lb. spot.

OPIMUM—There is practically no business this week, and all descriptions are unchanged.

SMYRNA, March 14.—The sales this week amount to 12 cases of Yeri talequale, and 4 cases selected Karrahissar talequale, at the equivalent of 7s. 8d. per lb., f.o.b. The principal holders here are rather indifferent as to selling at recent rates, as the weather has turned colder again. This slightly firmer tone is not expected to last long, as it is quite anticipated that weak holders will shortly be in need of money. The arrivals to date amount to 3,149 cases, against 3,956 cases at the same time last year.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 21.—The recent severe cold has passed away, and the country is once again enjoying spring-like weather. So far as we can gather some little damage was caused by frost, but nothing of any importance. The market is steady, and same applies to Smyrna, where United States buyers continue to operate. The week's sales amount to 3 cases "druggists," at 7s. 8d. per lb.

ORRIS—Values remain very low, Florentine offering at from 22s. to 28s. per cwt., c.i.f., according to quality. In another direction a sale is reported at 22s. 6d., c.i.f., for sorts. According to importers the crop will be considerably less this year, as the recent low prices do not of course pay cultivators.

OTTO OF ROSE—Reports emanating from two sources have been received in London this week stating that the recent frosts in Bulgaria have caused some injury to the growing rose-trees, but it is not expected to be irreparable. One London agent quotes finest pure at 18s. to 19s. per T. oz., according to quantity.

QUININE—Practically no business is reported this week from second-hands, but prices are firm and show no change, German sulphate on the spot being quoted 1s. 2d. per oz. Howards' quotation remains unchanged, but Whiffen's was advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ d. last week in conjunction with German. Quinine salts have also been advanced.

SEEDS—Russian *Anise* is very slow of sale at 20s. to 21s. per cwt. Dutch *Caraway* are quoted 21s. per cwt. Turkish *Canary* is steady at 37s. to 37s. 6d. per quarter. Moroccan *Coriander* maintains its value at 9s. 6d. per cwt. *Cumin* is firm at 26s. per cwt. for Morocco, and 31s. for Malta. *Fennugreek* is slow at 7s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco. Fine *Linseed* is selling at 55s. per quarter for Dutch.

SPICES—*Pepper* is dearer for Singapore black, owing to firmer advices from abroad. The spot quotation has been raised to 51½d. per lb., and the same price is asked for March-May shipment. On the other hand, white is rather lower; business has been done at 9½d. per lb. for Penang to arrive. The quotations on the spot are 9½d. for Penang and 9½d. for Singapore. *Zanzibar Cloves* are firmer at 3½d. per lb. for March-May delivery, and 3½d. for June-August.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general tone of the heavy-chemical market remains practically unchanged from that mentioned in recent reports, and this applies both as regards the volume of business passing and general ruling quotations. At all the main centres the feeling is much the same, whilst a steady but rather quiet demand is being experienced. Contract deliveries are for the most part being well taken up, and manufacturers' stocks are not allowed to become very heavy.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder and caustic soda still keep on the quiet side. Other products of this branch remain unchanged in demand and value.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, with good demand and somewhat short supply, steadily maintains a very firm tone, and ruling quotations are now higher than last given. Beekton, 11l. 12s. 6d.; April-June delivery, 11l. 12s. 6d.; Beekton terms, 11l. 12s. 6d.; London, 11l. 15s. to 11l. 17s. 6d.; Leith, 11l. 17s. 6d.; and Hull, 11l. 12s. 6d. to 11l. 15s. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 985 tons.

GREEN COPPERAS shows no decline in demand, and the firm tone ruling for some time past is easily and steadily maintained. Best Lancashire makes, 42s. 6d. to 45s. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Welsh, 13s. 6d. to 15s. per ton, in bulk, free on rails.

CALCIUM CHLORIDE—Rather quieter at 60s. to 62s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b.

RECOVERED SULPHUR keeps in brisk request, and late higher figures are steadily maintained, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s. per ton, in bags, free on rails.

SATIN WHITE.—In fair consumptive demand at 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton, in 6 to 7 cwt. casks.

SATINITE.—In brisk request at 60s. to 65s. per ton, f.o.b. or f.o.b. Liverpool.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, March 25.

CASTOR OIL.—The quay has been cleared of recent arrivals of good seconds Calcutta, and 2½d. per lb. is nominally the price, though some holders are talking of 3d. in store. First-pressure French is featureless at 2½d. to 3d. per lb., and the business passing is limited. Second-pressure French is held for 2½d., though probably a trifle less might be taken.

CALABAR BEANS.—A further small arrival of 5 bags has been sold at 1s. 1½d. per lb.

QUILLAIM.—Further important sales have been made during the week, and holders are very firm indeed at 12l. 15s. to 13l. per ton.

BEE-SWAX.—Sales are reported of Chilean mixed grey to yellow at 7l. 10s. per cwt. Four cases Peruvian fine pale to grey sold at 7l. 7s. 6d. per cwt.

AFRICAN GINGER.—Transactions of considerable importance are reported at 20l. per ton for arrival in transit, but the spot price for good root ranges from 31s. to 32s. per cwt.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Ten tons of Mogadore description have been sold at 7l. per ton.

GUM ACACIA.—The market for this article is sagging, but holders show little disposition to meet buyers, and consequently the proportion of business is considerably restricted.

ARSENIC.—White powdered is held for 13l. 15s. per ton.

LINSEED OIL is firmly held at 31s. to 32s. per cwt. for Liverpool makes.

CANARY SEED.—Only a small business is passing in this article at 32s. to 33s. per quarter.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, March 24.

Our drug market is rather quiet at present, and shows only little business.

CONDURANGO is in the hands of a combination, which is endeavouring to advance prices, but second-hand still sells below first hands—viz., 135m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is also monopolised in the same way, and held at 100m. per 100 kilos, second-hands quoting 95m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) shows the same unsettled position as last week, the refiners' prices being still unchanged; while second-hand holders will accept a few marks less.

JAPANESE WAX is firmer from abroad, while spot is quoted 69m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium shows a very firm position at 460m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is also firm; spot is quoted 29½m. to 30m. per kilo., and is little offered, stocks being small.

QUININE is very firm; the makers raised their prices to 41m. per kilo. last week.

COD-LIVER OIL is very firm and dearer; old crop is quoted 88m., and new 90m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

STAR ANISE OIL is firmer at 10½m. per kilo.

JAPANESE PEPPERMINT OIL is also firmer at 8½m. per kilo.

Japanese Drug Market.

Yokohama, February 21.

The declaration of the Anglo-Japanese alliance goes a long way to secure peace in the Orient during the next five years, and there is every sign of a general trade recovery. So far as our trade is concerned, prices seem to have reached to bottom, and some articles are now beginning to advance.

In export stuffs, dry ginger is a trifle lower on account of free arrivals from the producing districts; transactions are now made at the range of 12 yen to 11½ yen per picul. Since the appearance of new crop in the market, some 5,000 piculs have been exported to Europe, and 2,000 piculs to India, U.S.A., and Australia, India taking lion's share in this case. The new crop is said to have reached 25,000 piculs, and if the demand from Europe and elsewhere be reduced, the quotation may naturally go lower; holders intend to sell as much as possible in anticipation of lower prices. Menthol crystals remain firm at 8 yen to 7.80 yen per catty, with buyers at 7.65 yen per catty; holders are not anxious sellers at present. The stock is estimated at some 30,000 lbs. altogether. As there was a considerable difference in price between peppermint oil and menthol, the bulk of the former has been bought up by export firms at the range of 1.90 yen to 2.15 yen per catty, and 40-per-cent. at 4.50 yen per catty. There are now no available stocks. Some export houses have bought for speculative account, and it is said that they still hold at least 12,000 to 15,000 catties unexported. The nominal quotations are 2.50 yen for demethylised, and 4.65 yen per catty for 40-per-cent. oil. The new harvest will not come to market until October or November, so that in the event of continued demand from abroad prices may still be higher. Last year demand was very brisk for menthol, and the bulk of oil remained unsold; consequently holders,

anticipating the same result this year, have tried very hard to dispose of the oil and caused the present state of things. Refined camphor is weak at 97 sen per lb. for 1 oz. and ½-oz. tablets. Copper sulphate can be had at 14 yen per picul. Soda crystals are quoted 160 yen per 100 lbs.; bleaching-powder is wanted at 5.50 yen per case of 100 lbs. for 100 case lots; the export to China seems to have increased of late. Iodides are higher; this seems to be due to the dearer prices for raw material and brisk demand. The present quotations are 3.40 yen to 3.50 yen for potassium iodide; 5.40 yen to 5.50 yen for iodoform; and 4.80 yen to 4.90 yen per lb. for resublimed iodine. Japanese hyd. bichlor. can be had at 1.40 yen per lb. for P.J. quality.

In import articles, tartaric acid is lower at 56 sen per lb., with small demand. Citric acid is also weak at 65 sen. Carbolic-acid crystals (34° to 35° C.) are low in price, and 33 to 34 sen per lb. will buy. Bismuth subnitrate can be had at 2.55 yen to 2.60 yen per lb., according to holders. Cocaine has declined owing to lower advice, and holders are anxious sellers at 10 yen to 10.25 yen per oz., with no buyers. Caffeine also declined, and at present even 7 yen per lb. will buy. Balsam copaiba is firmer, holders quoting 98 sen to 1 yen per lb. Glycerin is lower now, on account of lack of demand, and 30 sen per lb. is quoted, although it costs 33 sen to import. Ergot can be had at 95 to 97½ sen per lb., though business was done at 90 sen per lb. some time ago. Lycopodium is quiet at 1.30 yen per lb. Ipecacuanha is lower, and holders ask 7 yen per lb. for Rio. Morphine is quiet at 42 yen. Quinine is weak at 86 sen for hydrochloride, and 56 sen for sulphate, without important transactions; Java sulphate can be had at 55 sen per oz. Sulphonal is going down by degrees, and at present 2.90 yen will buy; phenacetin also weak at 2.30 yen per lb. Pot. bromide is a little firmer, and present quotation is 90 to 91 sen per lb., according to quantity. Santonin is dearer at 9.20 yen per lb., in face of light supply. Of carbonate of ammonia practically nothing can be had at present; small sales are being made at 36 sen per lb., about 40 per cent. higher than import cost is, but arrivals are shortly expected. Potash-chlorate crystals are very low in price, and available at 14.25 yen per cwt. for 10-ton lots; this is due to lack of demand and the decline in the export of matches to China and India.

Cablegram.

HAMBURG, March 26:—Condurango-root has advanced to 140m. per 100 kilos. Both lycopodium and ergot are firmly held.

Electrolytic Works in Italy.

A company with a capital of about 44,000l. has just been formed at Milan for the electrolytic manufacture of caustic soda and of calcium chloride. These two products have up to the present been imported into Italy. The works of the new company will be situated at Varallo, where some 600 horse-power will be obtained from the River Sesia. The company expect, with some 350 working-days of twenty-four hours, to produce some 2,359 tons calcium-chloride solution, and 2,880 tons of caustic-soda solution. The estimate of the income and cost show an annual profit of 14 per cent.

Planting in Zanzibar.

Mr. Theodore Burt, of the Friends' Industrial Mission, Pemba, Zanzibar, writes to the *Tropical Agriculturist* that free paid labour among the natives on the clove plantations is becoming more general, and is answering infinitely better than slave labour. So far as he can see, the system of contracting with freed slaves to work three days per week for the Arab or other planter in lieu of rent of such lands as he likes to cultivate on the other four days, is a failure. The clove crop both in Zanzibar and Pemba was a small one last year, but on the above Mission plantation it was one of the best on record.

Cardamoms in Ceylon.

In the course of the annual report of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, it is stated that the area under cultivation has been very largely increased during the past two years, both in Ceylon and in India. The exports for the year ending December 31, 1901, show the heaviest on record, being 559,704 lbs., against 537,455 lbs. in 1900. Prices, both in the London and local markets, have fallen considerably in the past year in consequence of the heavy exports. With a still further large increase in acreage shortly coming into bearing from European estates, and from native gardens recently planted in almost every village in the Kandyan Province, the tendency must be to increase the exports to such an extent that the supply will probably exceed the demand, and the market will likely fall below remunerative prices. In this connection the *Ceylon Observer* is asked in a letter from a northern planting district to put in a strong word of warning about the danger of overproduction of cardamoms from the too rapid extension of clearings. "Wherever you turn new clearings are seen to be in progress—not in one district, but wherever there are trees to fell," says the writer.